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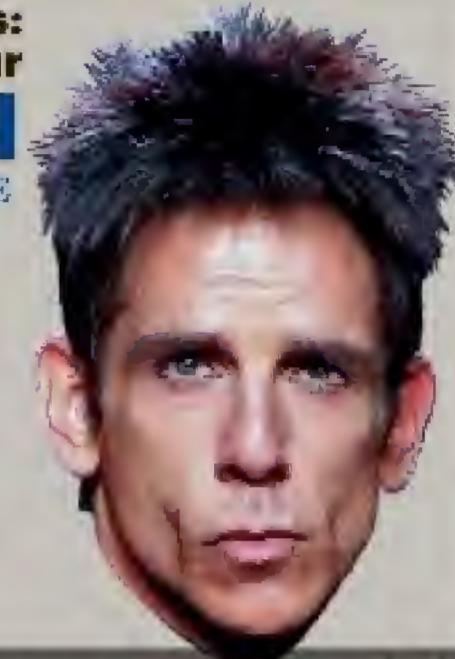
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SLIPPING RELIABILITY

Auditor finds city transit struggling with demand, security **metroNEWS**

No officers for weekend walk

MISSING, MURDERED WOMEN

City won't pay for police at this year's Memorial March due to lack of staff



**Alex
Boyd**

Metro | Edmonton

The organizer of Edmonton's annual Memorial March for missing and murdered indigenous women is frustrated the city won't pay for police at this Sunday's walk.

Events that close streets usually must pay for cops to come, but march organizer Danielle Boudreau said officers have been provided for free at past walks.

That won't happen this year.

An email sent by an official with Edmonton's festival and events department informed Boudreau the police units that supported the walk over the last two years "with complimentary services has confirmed that they are not able to do so in 2016."

Anna Batchelor, a spokeswoman for EPS, said the reason is staffing. "The service has been offered in past years but this year the staffing level is not available, so we're not able to offer this service."

Boudreau said organizers shouldn't have to pay, given the nature of the march.

"This is where sensitivity comes in, so if they can't do it, why don't they get someone like RCMP Project KARE. Why can't they get the homicide unit or victim services even?"

The lack of policing means this year's march is not "formally" permitted, said Julie Storner, supervisor of festivals and events for the city.

She said when a group can't pay for police, the city works to find alternatives that don't require as many cops, like holding the event in Churchill Square.

But she said march organizers didn't want to change their plans.

The email to Boudreau from the city "strongly encouraged" her and the walk to stay on the sidewalk, and modify the route to stay away from other events in Churchill Square.

Boudreau said the march will go ahead Sunday without changes to its route.



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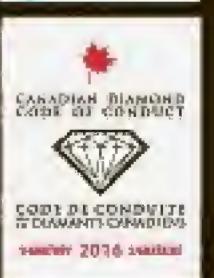
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A heritage worth projecting

THEATRE

New play is out to uncover city's gay past — and build its future

Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

It started with a simple question: Is there such a thing as gay heritage?

"Queer young people don't necessarily have queer parents who are passing along the historical events ... or telling us the stories of the ghosts we should honour," says Andrew Kushnir, one of the creators and performers of the Gay Heritage Project, a new play showing at the Citadel.

The new production is a response to that question. Kushnir, along with Paul Dunn and Damien Atkins — all formerly from Edmonton — set out to find common ground with a deep dive not only into their own cultural histories, but into gay history.

One of the obvious challenges, Kushnir says, is the fact gay heritage isn't tied to genetics or geography.

"Queer people of any age have to go out and actively piece together heritage, so heritage becomes something that you choose," he says.

He adds that gay identity is a relatively new thing, so questions arise about who is part of that history and who isn't.

Is Frederick the Great, whose sexuality has been a source of



The Gay Heritage Project opened at the Citadel this week and runs until the end of the month. SUPPLIED

historical debate, part of it? Is Alan Turing, who was gay but struggled to "cure" it?

"What it boils down to for me, is what things hold together for

me," Kushnir says.

Murray Billet is a long-time leader in Edmonton's gay community and was an adviser on the landmark Delwin Vriend legal case, which got sexual orientation enshrined as a human right. He welcomes the spotlight the play brings to gay history in Alberta, especially for young people.

Billet recounts sitting in a Jasper Avenue coffee shop last summer and watching two young gay men holding hands.

"It felt personally rewarding

to me, as I believe in 'one love,'" he says. "Mind you, I did have the sense that perhaps I should run up to them and say, 'You're welcome!'

"It is important to understand our community fought diligently for each step forward... Our awesome allies and many people in our community, like Michael Phair, brought that kind of change."

Paul Giang, who helped found the local Making Waves water polo team and played a central role in bringing

the upcoming International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics Championships to Edmonton, echoes the idea that heritage is something that you construct

If we didn't have these spaces... I probably wouldn't be comfortable even talking to you.

Paul Giang

THE LOWDOWN

Corcoran helms project

The Gay Heritage Project plays at the Citadel Feb. 10-27.

Created in Toronto, in 2013, it's in the middle of a national tour. Starring Andrew Kushnir, Paul Dunn and Damien Atkins, the play is directed by Ashlie Corcoran.

The play was nominated for a Dora Award, an annual prize that honours theatre, dance, and opera productions in Toronto.

— and says Edmonton is hard at work building it.

"I hope that [the Games] become heritage, Edmonton's, anyway," he says. "We talk about heritage as being about the past, but there's a lot that needs to be an ongoing discussion."

He says that the new generation's challenge is to confront issues of inclusion — issues that don't always make contemporary gay culture very welcoming for low-income people or people of colour.

Gaing grew up in Edmonton and says he was woken up to the idea of gay history after the closure of The Roost, one of Canada's longest running gay clubs, in 2007.

"You have to be grateful for these landmarks," he says. "If we didn't have these places to gather, these safe spaces... I probably wouldn't be comfortable even talking to you right now."

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Who's backing who

The focus on political endorsements has been a significant part of the Ward 12 campaign, with a few high-profile politicians throwing support behind a candidate leading to both criticism and cheers. Here's where provincial and municipal politics are currently overlapping.



Nav Kaur. METRO FILE



Arundeep Singh Sandhu.
METRO FILE



Danisha Bhaloo. METRO FILE

Kaur has received the support of two NDP MLAs so far — Environment Minister Shannon Phillips and local MLA Rod Loyola.

In a post on Kaur's website Loyola is quoted as saying Kaur "is the most progressive candidate and exemplifies the plurality and diversity of the ward."

Phillips says Kaur has "Proven her long-term commitment to Ward 12 and will be a strong advocate for the people who live there."

Former Edmonton mayor and cabinet minister, Stephen Mandel, along with his wife Lynn, have supported Bhaloo.

"We have always been impressed with the depth of her understanding and pride of and dedication to the community," reads their endorsement.

Bhaloo also has the support of former MLA Heather Klimchuk.



Police recruits at city hall. Whichever candidate wins in Ward 12 will face tough decisions about how to deal with police budget issues. METRO FILE

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Council to decide on police budget

WARD 12

Force says they're struggling to keep up


Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Ward 12 candidates aren't the only ones trying to get to doors these days.

For much different reasons, Edmonton Police are also working to get to doors but they're struggling to make it.

And for all 32 candidates fighting to represent the ward at council, the reasons behind that struggle will be a definite challenge.

Edmonton Police are the largest budget item on the city's books and the force has grown consistently over the years. But still, police are struggling to keep up with an increasing number of calls.

The force saw almost 13,000 more calls in 2015

\$8.5M

Amount city council gave the police force as a budget increase.

\$49.1M

Increase in budget. Edmonton Police Service asked city for in recent budget.

than the year prior and because of this, its response time success rate fell to a new low.

Officers responded to calls within their ideal target only 68.2 per cent of the time last year. While the highest priority calls are still being met, property crimes and smaller issues are taking hours for the police to respond to.

The police asked for \$49.1 million over the next three years to get a handle on the problem, but council provided only \$8.5 million.

Speaking to Metro in a year-end interview, Chief Rod Knecht said the police would shift resources, but admitted it would be a struggle.

"We try to get to those calls within seven minutes, 80 per cent of the time and

right now we are in the mid 60s," he said. "I don't think we are going to get ahead of the curve. I think we can manage the curve."

Edmonton Police Association President Sgt. Maurice Brodeur said Knecht's plans to redistribute resources will help, but he doubts it will keep up with the growing demand even as the city slows down.

"I don't think it will be enough to be honest with you. I think there will be struggles," he said.

He said he also worries about the demand put on officers.

"They are tired. There is overtime on an almost daily basis."

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HERITAGE COUNCIL

Podcast series to share Edmonton's history

Edmontonians may not know the North Saskatchewan River was used as a waste dump 100 years ago, or that Canada's first mosque was built in the city, so the Edmonton Heritage Council is aiming to change that.

A new podcast series, launched Wednesday, features local personalities telling lesser-known stories about the city's history.

"Podcasting provides people with the opportunity to take Edmonton's history with them wherever they go — whether

it's driving in a car or running on a treadmill — and listen to the stories that make Edmonton unique," said Monica Roberts, coordinator for the Edmonton City as Museum Project pod-

cast series.

"We have a pretty heavy web presence through our history posts where Edmontonians shared their stories, but there is a limited audience ... so we wanted to expand that to another format."

The three pilot episodes, which will be released on a weekly basis on the group's website, feature a professor talking about Edmonton's trash history, a former historian laureate discussing a failed downtown freeway

loop proposal, and two authors sharing the story of Al Rashid Mosque.

"What's valuable is the human part of it — there are human voices to the story and history, which is often dry textbook names and dates," Roberts said.

Since the podcast series is a pilot project, Roberts said that the Heritage Council is inviting feedback from listeners about stories they want to hear, and the style of the podcast.

SANAM ISLAM/METRO

The podcasts make history more modern.

Monica Roberts



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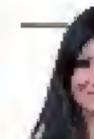


Randy Shuttleworth said residents are happy that they will finally get new sidewalks to help make the neighbourhood safer. KEVIN TUONG/METRO

Communities await facelift

DOWNTOWN

Queen Mary Park will soon see restored roads, walks

 **Sanam Islam**
Metro | Edmonton

A downtown neighbourhood may soon become safer for pedestrians, and some of its residents say it's about time.

"We've been saying for years the streets and sidewalks are terrible, and we've been waiting patiently," said Randy Shuttleworth, president of the Queen Mary Park Community League. "We weren't getting the priority, but we're finally next."

Queen Mary Park is one of three neighbourhoods — including Lansdowne and Lauderdale — that will receive a facelift this year as part of the City of Edmonton's Building Great Neighbourhoods program.

The program's mandate, since 2009, is to use taxpayer and utility rate money to renew or replace roadways, sidewalks, streetlights, sewers, curbs and gutters.

"We are getting new sidewalks in the neighbourhood, but in a couple of areas we'll

have to wait until later because they're near arterial roads," Shuttleworth said.

Over the years, the renewal program has started to incorporate requests that fall outside of doing the basics, said the City's director of neighbourhood renewal.

Some of that started in 2014 when the Queen Alexandria neighbourhood created a community group aiming to change the configuration of a major intersection, and add bike lanes.

"We are always trying to improve. The (Queen Alexandria) situation has shown us the engagement that some community groups are looking for and where we can interact with them outside the formal process," said Jeff Ward, in the neighbourhood renewal department with the city.

Shuttleworth said he is happy with the city's efforts to consult with the community, although there are some things — such as streetlights near apartment blocks — that can't be added in time because of a problematic city law.

"It's like a grocery list and you're not able to get everything you want," he said. Construction will likely begin in spring 2016 and is expected to be completed in 2017.

 **Randy Shuttleworth**
It's like a grocery list and you're not able to get everything you want.

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WATER POISONING

EPCOR quells fears about pipes

About 4,600 homes in Edmonton have lead pipes similar to those that are now poisoning the water in Flint, Mich., but officials say a program is in place to avoid tragedies like what is taking place there.

EPCOR, which provided water to Edmonton homes, has been working for the last eight years to address the problem.

Some homes dating from before the 1950s were built with lead pipes, which include both EPCOR's connection to the home and piping on the homeowner's side of the property line.

EPCOR spokesperson Tim le Riche said it's a small problem — nowhere near the scale of Flint — but they do want to help homeowners.

"What we're talking about when you look at the city as a whole is a very small number respectively," he said.

EPCOR's program will see the utility replace their service pipes anytime a homeowner chooses to upgrade theirs.

"If you decide to go ahead with the replacement, we will do ours at exactly the same time," said le Riche.

He said because of the high cost, most homeowners have chosen to use filters to keep lead



Lead in pipes in Flint, Mich., have led to water poisoning and deep anger. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

out of their water rather than replace pipes, but EPCOR has replaced pipes in about 1,200 homes. He said EPCOR keeps in

contact with homeowners and can test suspect lead pipes for anyone who is concerned.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The scene at a Mac's convenience and gas station where a clerk was shot and killed last year. This along with many other incidents have led to many calling for laws protecting workers, including drivers prepaying for gas. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police chiefs join call for prepay law

ALBERTA CRIME

Gas-and-dash violence a preventable crime: Chiefs

Police chiefs want the Alberta government to devise a law that would require drivers to prepay at the pump before filling up.

The Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police has passed a resolution calling for legislation which notes gas-and-dash thieves can injure or kill gas station employees.

RCMP Deputy Commissioner Marianne Ryan, president of the association, said prepaying would also benefit business owners by reducing gasoline thefts and freeing up police to work on other crimes.

"We feel that it is a win-win on a number of fronts, but most importantly it is that safety component. One lost life is too many," Ryan said Thursday. "One lost life is too many."

The chiefs passed a similar resolution in 2011, but the former Progressive Conservative government did not accept it.

Ryan said chiefs decided to raise the prepay proposal again with the government last summer following the June death of Maryam Rashidi, a Calgary service-station worker who was run over

during a gas-and-dash theft.

"The loss of Ms. Rashidi really accentuated a sense of urgency," Ryan said. "We can't let that happen again."

The NDP government has been more receptive and told the chiefs association in November that it would review its concerns, but has given no indication what it plans to do or when, she said.

This week, Labour Minister Christina Gray said it's time to take steps to better pro-



We feel that it is a win-win on a number of fronts, but most importantly it is that safety component. One lost life is too many.

Marianne Ryan, RCMP Deputy Commissioner

McGowan.

He said the Alberta government should introduce a bill during the spring sitting of the legislature.

"The B.C. model works. It has been in place for almost a decade now and it has saved lives," McGowan said. "We see no reason to wait any longer."

The B.C. regulation known as Grant's Law was passed after gas-station worker Grant De Patie was killed in 2005 trying to prevent a gas-and-dash robbery over \$12,30 worth of fuel.

In Vancouver alone, the number of reported gas-and-dash thefts dropped to 15 in 2008 after the law came in from 161 the year before, said Scott McCloy, a spokesman for WorkSafeBC.

The number of robberies each year since then has been one or none.

"I think it is pretty clear that the regulation has virtually eliminated or severely curtailed gas-and-dash robberies, putting workers at less risk," McCloy said.

There was some push-back by customers and businesses at first, but people generally got used to it, he said.

A member of the Ontario legislature introduced a private member's bill proposing prepay legislation following the 2012 death of a gas station worker in Toronto, but it never came to a final vote.

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Reliability, safety big transit issues

AUDIT

Dependability of buses well below target, report says

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton's transit system has slipping reliability, overloaded buses and more crime, according to the city's auditor.

In a report released Thursday and heading to council next week, auditor David Wiun said overall the system is running well, but reliability is a problem.

The city's target is that a bus arrives no more than five minutes early or one minute late 90 per cent of the time. But the best Edmonton's transit has done in recent years is 74 per cent.

Wiun's report also noted 1,328 passengers were left waiting in 2014 as a bus drove past because it was overloaded, saying it's a worrying trend the service needs to address.

Edmonton transit's branch manager Eddie Robar said the



The city's auditor notes bus services are frequently struggling to keep up with scheduled service.

METRO FILE

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

City signs Valley Line deal

The city has signed a deal on the single biggest infrastructure project it will ever build.

TransED partners won the contract to build the Valley Line LRT from the city last fall, but has been negotiating final details. That work wrapped up this week.

The city can't yet release the exact cost, but the \$1.8 billion council had budgeted will cover the project.

department is taking small steps to tackle problems now, but the ongoing transit review will create the most change.

"It's about taking a holistic look at the system itself. How we distribute buses, how we distribute our vehicles and making sure that's done in a systemic way."

Coun. Mike Nickel said council needs to take a hard look at the report.

"We're delivering some of the fundamentals properly, but there are aspects of this model that aren't working," he said.

He said council should be getting information about the system's performance much more often.

"This is the kind of thing that because it has such a high impact as a public service you should get quarterly reporting on these basic metrics."

Security

Wiun's audit shows a 61 per cent increase in loitering and other incidents and a 14 per cent increase in more serious incidents, such as assaults and robberies.

14%

The audit shows an increase in incidents such as assaults or robberies by 14 per cent from 2011 to 2014.

Future plans

Wiun also said the city needs to examine using bus rapid transit (BRT) instead of LRT.

"In our opinion, with the wide range of options and cost of rapid transit infrastructure the comprehensive long-term strategy needs to encompass an integrated review of all aspects of bus and LRT service."

Robar said it's a big part of what the review should do.

"There are all sorts of opportunities to look at the best ways to deliver transit," he said.

Nickel said he is committed to the first phase of the Valley Line as an LRT, but for the extension to the west end, council should at least consider a bus rapid transit system.

"We are back to the question about whether we do a full line first or if we evolve it," he said.

METRO FILE

There will be a value for money report that will be released within the next 60 days, but we are within the projected budget," said city spokesperson Quinn Nicholson. "They have to go through all the finances now and see what can be shared and what needs to be redacted."

Nicholson said the contract for the line is incredibly detailed, to make sure the city gets precisely what it's paying for.

"Literally, what we said we were going to build, going back to the preliminary engineering, is what we are going to build."

The city estimates construction of the line will create 20,000 jobs. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

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FENTANYL ADDICTION

Mother says long-term care should be priority

An Edmonton mother whose son has been recovering from fentanyl addiction says the use of the drug among youth in her community is still a huge problem.

One of Carrie Babiuk's son's childhood friends died last week at 20 from a fentanyl overdose.

"My son is devastated. He's managed to stay off of it for over seven months, but there are other people battling it and dying from it," Babiuk said.

It was the death of another

close friend from an overdose last November that led to her 20-year-old son coming clean to her about his addiction and seeking help.

After telling his mother, he went through a seven-day detox program.

"The biggest part of it that people don't realize is that those who use it every day have built up a tolerance to it," Babiuk said. "When they're in withdrawal, they have no tolerance, and if they use it just once, they're

gone."

Babiuk's son did relapse once and overdose, but was found in time by his girlfriend. One of the problems he faced after being treated and released by the hospital was that he had to wait for 90 days to get in-patient treatment because of a long wait list.

While Babiuk said drugs that treat an overdose or help with overcoming addiction — such as naloxone, methadone and suboxone — are a helpful step in the recovery process, for her,

more beds and long-term treatment programs are also crucial.

"There are underlying issues that people need to work on to overcome addiction such as tools to learn a different lifestyle," she said. "People wonder why there's a big relapse rate in a 30-day recovery program. It's not enough."

Babiuk said since undergoing a rehabilitation program, her son has found support in weekly mentorship meetings at a local drug prevention program called Clean Scene. SANAM ISLAM/METRO

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Canada

DRUGS

More school presentations coming in next few months

Sanam Islam
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton police are heading to city high schools to speak about the dangers of fentanyl, with the first of 21 talks happening Thursday.

"Every year, if you look at the statistics, more and more deaths are happening," said Const. John Sorenson, a school resource officer, at a presentation held for Grade 12 students at Austin O'Brien High School.

"Fentanyl can kill you the first time you try it, so that's why it's important to get out there. We want to inform kids about what this is."

According to Edmonton police, youth between the ages of 17 and 25 are some of the hardest hit by fentanyl use.

That's why, over the next few months, school resource officers plan to deliver the presentation to about 29,000



Students Tania Strilets, left, and Bhanwar Gill said they were shocked to learn fentanyl is added to drugs like marijuana that are commonly used by students. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Police warn students of fentanyl

students.

According to Alberta Health Services, 272 people died of fentanyl overdose in 2015. While the exact number of student deaths is unclear, Sorenson said he knows of at least two recent cases in Edmonton.

"With some of the kids we've lost in our high schools, it's a first-time try. These are not bad kids who are on the streets — these are kids in high school playing hockey and trying it once or going to a party and trying it because their friends are trying it," Sorenson said.

A student who attended the presentation said it was eye-opening. "I didn't know that much about it before the presentation. Getting basic knowledge and knowing what to avoid so you're not ignorant — I think it's the most important thing," said 17-year-old Tania Strilets.

She said she was disturbed to learn how big of an effect a small amount of fentanyl can have.

"Even the tiniest bit can kill you. I think the part that stuck out for me was knowing that it can go into other drugs like weed that high school students are using frequently," Strilets said.



Two of the biggest pieces of my heart are gone. You guys took those pieces with you.
Katie Caldwell

Sister Katie Caldwell, right, delivers a tribute as father Jason Caldwell looks on at a memorial service for twin brothers Evan and Jordan Caldwell, killed in a Saturday bobsled track incident at Canada Olympic Park, in Calgary on Thursday. The brothers were buried earlier in the day at a private ceremony. LARRY MACDOUGAL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Twins mourned

CALGARY

Faith focus of memorial for boys who died at Olympic Park

The sobbing sister of identical twin brothers who died in an after-hours joyride down a bobsled track told mourners Thursday that "two of the biggest pieces" of her heart are gone.

Katie Caldwell said her 17-year-old brothers Jordan and Evan were fun-loving, kind and overly fond of pranks.

"Pranks between those two boys was almost their own love language, but their jokes never went too far and would have never been this cruel. Evan and Jordan would never have want-



A guitar in front of a tribute table prior to the funeral for twin brothers Evan and Jordan Caldwell. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ed for us ... to suffer like this," she cried.

"You were taken from us too soon. There are just no words. Two of the biggest pieces of my heart are gone. You guys took those pieces with you. All I can do is stand here in front of you and ask you all to remember them."

The twins had been "ambassadors," welcoming guests and scanning tickets at the park last season.

The boys' father, Jason Caldwell, told the more than 2,200 people who attended the 90-minute service that he's proud of his sons. He said they were smart, accomplished and always willing to help a friend.

"(Their mother) Shauna and I never, ever had to have that talk with the boys about excellence. Excellence was in their hearts. There was never an I-have-to attitude. They always had an I-get-to attitude to everything they did."

A memorial table focused on the boys' faith and their academic achievement.

"Jesus Loves Nerds" proudly proclaimed one poster on a table at Calgary's Centre Street

TRAGIC DEATH

Joyride on bobsled track turns to disaster

The twins, along with six others, snuck onto the bobsled track at Canada Olympic Park in Calgary early Saturday.

The friends were tobogganing down when they hit a gate separating the bobsled and luge runs used during the 1988 Winter Olympics.

Three of those injured remained in hospital Thursday.

Both WinSport and the Calgary police continue their investigations into the crash.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Bishops won't back down

CATHOLICISM

Opposition to physician-assisted dying reiterated

Catholic leaders in Alberta are reiterating the church's opposition to physician-assisted dying.

After the Supreme Court struck down the law against assisted suicide last February, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops said the church opposes any form of mercy killing.

The national organization wants the federal government to ensure that any changes to the law would not force health-care providers or hospitals to be involved in assisted dying.

The group has also asked Ottawa to ensure that the law would not be interpreted differently by each province and territory.

Alberta's bishops want the province to consult with the public before taking any steps to comply with new regulations



Edmonton's Archbishop Richard Smith is against assisted suicide. RYAN TUMILY/METRO FILE

the federal government must develop by June.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta is proposing a standard that would allow physicians to say "no" to assisted dying, but would require them to refer a patient to another doctor.

This is unacceptable in a truly just and ethical society.

Statement from Alberta's Catholic bishops

"The decision of the Supreme Court of Canada makes legally permissible in some circumstances what is morally wrong in every circumstance: the taking of innocent human life," Alberta's Catholic bishops said Thursday.

"This is unacceptable in a

truly just and ethical society."

Bishop Douglas Crosby, president of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, has told the federal government it should have considered using the Constitution's "notwithstanding clause" to postpone any implementation of physician-assisted dying for at least the next five years.

In a letter to the federal ministers of justice and health last month, Crosby said a delay would have provided time for calm reflection and consultation.

"Many Canadians still do not understand that so-called 'assisted-dying' is a deliberately misleading term for physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia," he wrote.

Crosby said the federal government should instead bolster palliative care services, provide more funding for research into pain relief and bring in a national suicide prevention plan.

"Caring for the dying does not include killing them or helping them kill themselves," he wrote.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FINANCES

ATB earning falling off

ATB Financial's earnings plunged in the last quarter compared with a year ago, as the bank prepared for a potential big increase in loan losses amid the continuing downturn in the oilpatch.

The Alberta crown corporation says net income was \$32.5 million for the last three months of 2015, down from earnings of \$91.5 million in the same quarter a year earlier.

Much of that was attributed to a surge in anticipated loan losses, with the company booking \$91.3 million in credit loss provisions in the quarter, compared with \$18.8 million a year ago.

The bank says the increase was largely due to several high-value loans in the exploration and production portfolio becoming impaired.

ATB said the credit loss provision category was a "clear gauge of the challenges faced by companies in the oil and gas sector, and related service sectors."

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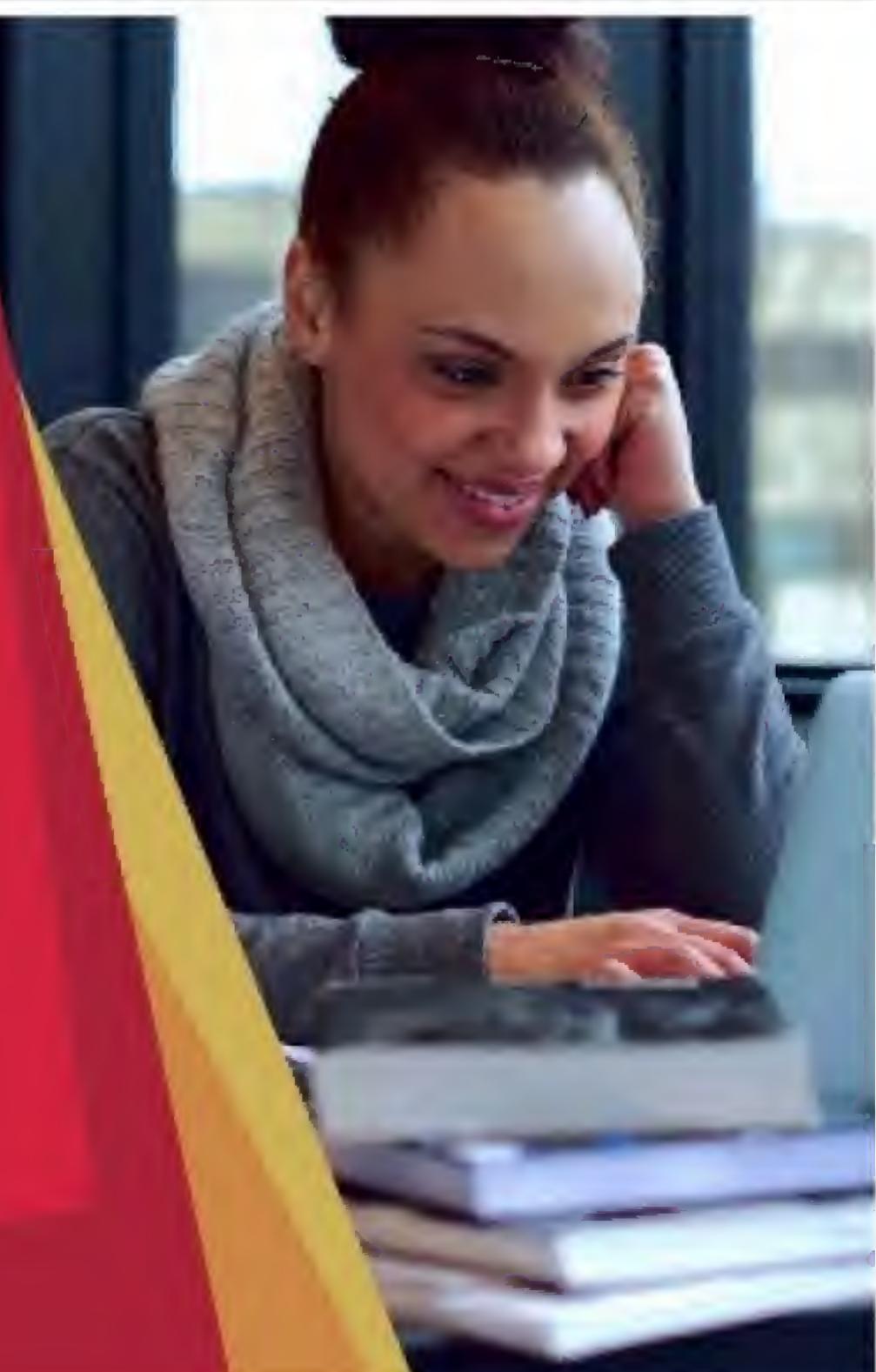
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VIOLETTE UNDERGROUND

Burlesque series promises saucy fun

Alberta's burlesque community has been in the news in recent months thanks to the overturning of an anachronistic law regarding the legal definition of "nude entertainment" in November, which had effectively criminalized burlesque shows.

A month later, Edmonton

burlesque performer Sarah Jackson, better known by her moniker Violette Coquette, launched the first installment of a new cabaret series entitled Violette Underground, with which she aims to bring back the eclectic mix of entertainment, socializing space, and fancy cocktails of

the speakeasy epoch.

This second instalment will take place Saturday, Feb. 13 in the basement of the 100-year-old CKUA building.

With a motley assortment of dancers, spoken word poets, musicians, fortune tellers and other characters, Violette Underground aims to provide a space wherein guests can alternate between taking in live entertainment and enjoying cocktails and conversation, with performances staggered at 20- to 30-minute intervals.

"I wanted to fill a niche in this city that I don't think anybody else has, which is the classic concept of the cabaret, where you have philosophers and other creative types talking about big ideas between performances of eclectic art forms," says Jackson.

"That and I always wanted to bring back the speakeasy-type event, with passwords at the door and all. And this beautiful century-old building is the perfect place to do it."

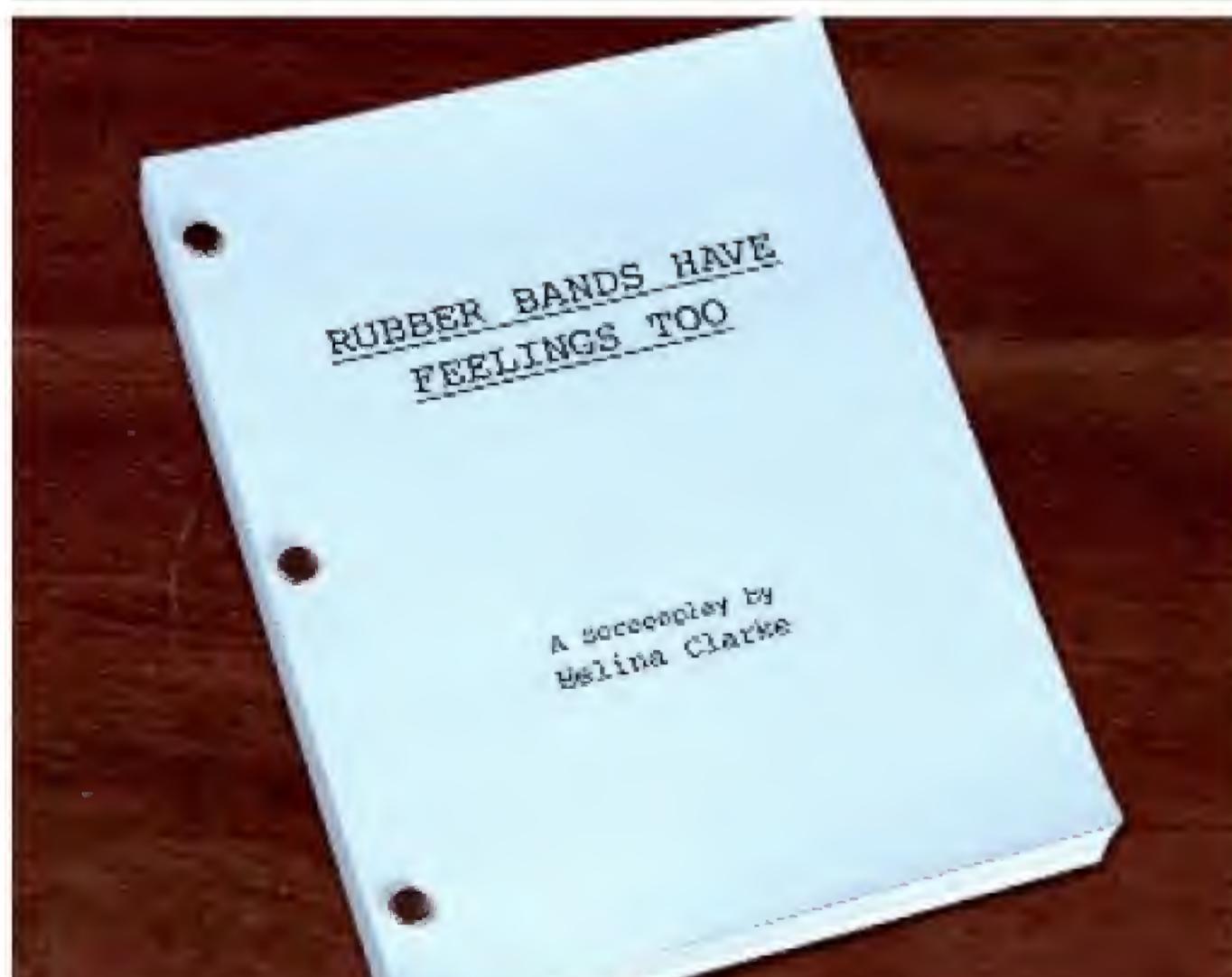
Violette Underground Numéro Deux begins at midnight on Saturday.

Tickets are available at the door.

BEN FREELAND/ FOR METRO



Sarah Jackson, a.k.a. Violette Coquette, director and star of Violette Underground Numéro Deux. CONTRIBUTED



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It's still here, but the Ice Castle in Hawrelak may not remain as long as originally planned, making this weekend a prime chance to see it. KEVIN TUONG/ FOR METRO

Love, romance in the air this weekend

ENTERTAINMENT

Ice castle, comedy and concerts also on offer in city

Ben Freeland
For Metro | Calgary

All weekend

■ The Edmonton Ice Castle in Hawrelak Park is still scheduled to be open until March, but the current warm spell threatens to close it at the end of this month. It remains open this weekend.

■ Critically acclaimed new comedy The Gay Heritage Project opened at the Citadel Theatre (9828 101A Ave.) on Wednesday, Feb. 10. Show starts at 8 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

IN BRIEF

River otter dies in pool at Calgary Zoo

The Calgary Zoo says one of its North American river otters has died in the pool at the Canadian Wilds exhibit.

The zoo says a keeper noticed 12-year-old Logan struggling in the pool and jumped in to save him, but the otter did not survive. A spokeswoman says Logan's death has upset staff and an investigation is being done to determine what happened.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Friday

■ The heart and soul of Edmonton's hip-hop scene will be showcased in the screening of new documentary film *Keep The Circle Strong* at Stanley Milner Library (7 Sir Winston Churchill Sq.). Doors open at 3 p.m., with the program beginning at 3:15 p.m.

■ Veteran Canadian soft-rock crooner Gino Vannelli will be bringing his legendary pipes to the River Cree Resort & Casino (Whitemud Drive and Winterburn Road, Enoch). Show starts at 9 p.m.

Saturday

■ The 5 Artists 1 Love collective will be celebrating Black History Month for the 10th year running with an eclectic mix of musical performance, spoken word poetry, and visual arts at Chateau Lacombe (10111 Belamy Hill). Show starts at 8 p.m.

Sunday

■ Couples looking for a night of romantic music and ambience can head down to Café Blackbird (9640 142 St.) for a special Valentine's Day concert featuring up-and-coming jazz guitarist and vocalist Billie Zizi. Show starts at 8 p.m.

HUMANE SOCIETY

These little piggies went on social media

Four little piglets are hogging the spotlight at the Calgary Humane Society this week. Staff have been working to socialize the five-week-old piglets, getting them used to new sights, smells and touches so that meeting new people is not a big deal when they're adopted into new homes.

"The first couple of times we did it they had their burns stuck together and didn't want to move," said community relations manager Sage Pullen McIntosh.

McIntosh said the humane society is trying to give Calgar-

ians a more behind-the-scenes look at what they do. The piglet socialization on Thursday was their first live broadcast through the Periscope app, and McIntosh said it will be the first of many.

The piglets are a very different fare from their usual dogs and cats, however. The piglets are more nervous than most animals, choosing to stick close to their siblings and taking longer to get used to being held. But when it comes to stealing hearts, they have the chops to stand out.

AARON CHATHA/METRO CALGARY

Dentistry students fill cavities abroad

HEALTH

Group raises \$60,000 for dental care to people in need

Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

More people in the developing world will have healthier teeth, thanks to fundraising efforts by a group of dental students from the University of Alberta.

Despite the flagging economy, their Winter Ball fundraiser generated \$60,000 from sponsorships and ticket sales — the most the annual fundraiser has ever raised, and an almost 50 per cent increase over last year.

The money will go to Kindness in Action, a non-profit volunteer organization that provides free dental care around the world to people who have either limited or no access to it.

Dental student Marissa Struik spent last week in Belize, in the Caribbean. She was part of a 21-person team of dentists, dental students and hygienists that performed over 600 fillings, extractions and cleanings.

"We saw a lot of children and there's a big misconception that if there's problems with baby teeth, once they fall out, it's OK," Struik said. "But if they're in pain, it affects their ability to focus," adding that any decay can also damage adult teeth.

Twelve students from the School of Dentistry are headed overseas in January and February. Students pay their own way, so all money raised will



Dental students from the University of Alberta have raised funds for Kindness in Action, a volunteer organization that provides free dental care around the world. CONTRIBUTED

go to equipment and supplies for patients.

Event chair and dental student Emily Ervin attributes this year's success to a strong team and a growing realization that dental care is needed in developing countries.

"A lot of people don't think this would be the first thing they need," she said. "But den-

tal care is so taken for granted here, people are rarely in crisis because they don't have it."

She points to the link between dental care and issues like diabetes and cardiovascular disease. "If you don't have access to dental care, a sore tooth can be so serious, it can affect (a person's) livelihood, their ability to live life."

ECONOMY

Clark sees Alberta's plight as cautionary tale for provinces

British Columbia Premier Christy Clark says Alberta is her province's best friend in the country and its financial experience should be a cautionary tale for others.

In a throne speech on Tuesday, Clark's government said Alberta lost its economic focus but she told reporters Thursday those comments were meant to warn people in her own province of the financial danger if it fails to save for hard times.

"It's really a cautionary tale.

Alberta is a province that for decades has had tremendous wealth," she said at an event in Vancouver to announce funding for B.C.'s music industry.

"And for decades, government after government of all different stripes spent like sailors. And what we saw was that ultimately, we saw them really squander a tremendous opportunity. They didn't diversify their economy. They didn't put aside their money. Now, their government — and

it's not about the politics of it — their government's really struggling to try and support the province."

Clark said she wants to make sure that British Columbia doesn't fall into the same trap as it rides a wave of economic prosperity.

Alberta's economic development minister said he interprets the throne speech comments as an attack on the previous Conservative governments. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gas prices among lowest in the world

AT THE PUMP

Proximity to refineries and competition cited as reasons

**BEN
FREELAND**
For Metro

As of Wednesday, Edmonton gas stations were charging as little as 57 cents per litre, the lowest prices the city has seen since 1999, when they averaged 52.4 cents a litre. It's also the lowest current price in Canada.

Thanks to the city's proximity to several refineries and its highly competitive gas retail environment, Edmonton has long enjoyed relatively low prices at the pump.

52.4¢

The average price for a litre of gasoline in 1999.

how do they compare with the rest of the world? Turns out only a few countries pay less — and most pay much, much more.

Between 1995 and 2009, Edmonton recorded the lowest average annual gas prices in major Canadian cities in all but three years (2002 to 2003), and even then the city ranked second-lowest behind Winnipeg and Calgary, respectively.

According to GasBuddy.com, Edmonton's gasoline is cheaper than Calgary's by a few cents — on Wednesday, Calgary averaged 62 cents per litre.

Gasoline prices are linked to the price of oil, which has continued to linger around the \$30 mark for a barrel of crude, prices not seen since 2003.

The low price also gives Edmontonians not only the cheapest gasoline in Canada, but among the cheapest in the world. But

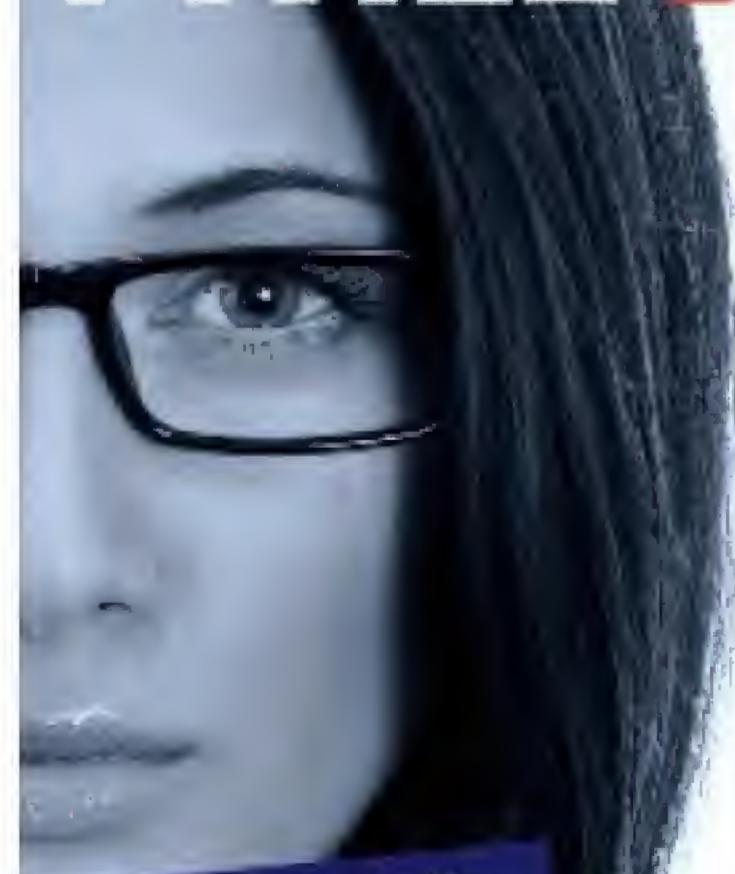


To compare how cheap Edmonton gasoline is, consider Montreal's prices, shown here in this photo from late January.

RYAN REMIOR/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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WHO PAYS THE LEAST?

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This South American country sits atop the world's largest proven oil reserves, and thanks to massive government subsidies, its citizens have long enjoyed practically free gas, currently retailing at 02 cents per litre. Not a typo.

SAUDI ARABIA

The world's largest crude oil producing nation also

enjoys some of the world's cheapest gas, currently at around 33 cents a litre.

IRAN

This country's economy has suffered considerably under the weight of international sanctions, but thanks to the country's extensive oil and gas reserves and processing capacity, it still enjoys some of the world's cheapest gas at 55 cents a litre.

WHO PAYS THE MOST?

NORWAY

This country is the notable exception among oil-rich countries with its high gas prices, currently at \$2.29 a litre, with which it helps finance the country's extensive social programs.

ISRAEL

In spite of its location in an oil-rich region, stormy geopolitical relations keep

gas prices stubbornly high in this Middle Eastern country, currently at \$2.12 a litre.

TURKEY

Difficult relations with neighbouring Iran and Russia keep gas prices high in Turkey, currently at \$1.97 a litre, although some experts expect this to shift with the loosening of sanctions against Iran.



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Trudeau, UN warm up

UNITED NATIONS

Ban Ki-moon praises PM for his efforts

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon praised Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for last year's climate-change charm offensive in Paris, but urged him to spend more of Canada's wealth on the world's poorest people.

The usually staid Ban appeared almost gleeful at times Thursday as he took Trudeau up on his offer to re-engage with the UN during a packed, day-long visit to Ottawa, including high-level meetings on Parliament Hill and a feel-good assembly at a boisterous local high school auditorium.

"I am here to declare that the United Nations enthusiastically welcomes this commitment," Ban declared. He praised not only Trudeau's climate-change advocacy, but his desire to return Canada to its peacekeeping roots — which, he said, Canada helped create under external af-

fairs minister Lester Pearson in the 1950s.

Trudeau has stressed re-orienting Canada toward world organizations — the UN in particular — as part of a new multi-lateral foreign policy that often tries to invoke the so-called Pearson-era golden age of diplomacy.

Trudeau confirmed that Canada is looking to win a seat on the Security Council as part of a move to renew its relationship with the world body.

"We are going to evaluate the opportunities for Canada to mount a successful bid," he said.

Trudeau said he told Ban that Canada wants to be involved as a peacemaker.

During the tenure of successive Liberal and Conservative governments, Canada's commitment to UN peacekeeping has dropped sharply since the 1990s, when the country deployed thousands of blue-helmeted peacekeepers.

"I reiterated the commitment of our government to strengthen the UN's ability to maintain international peace and security," Trudeau said. THE CANADIAN PRESS



1 Trudeau has told Ban Ki-moon he hopes to win a seat on the UN Security Council. CHRIS ROUSSAKIS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

2 Ban Ki-moon joins Trudeau at a press conference at Parliament Hill in Ottawa. CHRIS ROUSSAKIS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

3 The two leaders agreed to further co-operation. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS



Coun. Bernard Cameron.

METROLAND MEDIA FILE

ALMONTE, ONT.

Councillor dies after shooting

A woman is recovering in hospital after being shot in an incident that killed her father, a councillor in a small eastern Ontario town, and left another man injured.

Sarah Cameron was taken to hospital with what police described as life-threatening injuries on Thursday morning after

a shooting at her father's home in Almonte, Ont., about 50 kilometres west of Ottawa.

"It is with profound sorrow and shock that I confirm that my colleague and friend, Coun. Bernard Cameron, died today in a violent incident," Shaun McLaughlin, mayor of Mississippi Mills, Ont., said Thursday.

OPP said officers responding to a 911 call in the small community 50 kilometres west of Ottawa at 7:30 Thursday morning found a man's body and two people in life-threatening condition following a "serious incident."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Ghomeshi verdict to come March 24, judge says

Justice William Horkins announced March 24 as the verdict date after lawyers wrapped up their closing arguments in Jian Ghomeshi's sex-assault trial.

The defence argued three accusers were unreliable witnesses. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Deficit expected to grow

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said the upcoming 2016-17 budget will show a deficit larger than the Liberals' promised \$10-billion shortfall cap.

Ottawa's goal is to generate the growth that will benefit the entire economy, he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Sam Aiello got a call from Chewbacca. Then another one came. Then they wouldn't stop. Turns out Montreal Canadiens forward Paul Byron was behind the prank. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Byron pulls a Wookiee

SPORTS

Hockey player uses Kijiji to prank his friend

Emma Jackson
Metro | In Ottawa

Not long ago, in a city two hours away, a Montreal Canadiens forward lost hard in his fantasy football pool.

"N n n n rrraaaaaaaaggaaaaaaaahhh!" Paul Byron might have cried as he conceded defeat to his friend, Sam Aiello, back in Ottawa.

It was a frightening loss for someone so steeped in competitive sports, but like any rebel fighter — er, hockey player — Byron wasn't giving up.

He started typing.

Two days later, Aiello got a call from Chewbacca.

And another, and then another.

"Nrrrraaaaaaaaaaaaahhhhh!"

Chewie wouldn't leave him alone.

The famous Wookiee was calling from across the galaxy, from alien planets like Haliburton, Hamilton and London.

"I kept getting these random calls. So I put my number into Google and I knew it was him right away," Aiello said.

He's upset that I beat him in fantasy football playoff game.

Sam Aiello

MARRIAGE

'When all that fairy tale stuff falls apart'

One marriage expert has a decidedly anti-cupid message for long-term lovers this Valentine's season: rein in the wooing.

Amid the red roses, candlelit dinners and declarations of love, all couples — particularly those who aren't legally married — are being advised to make time to talk about what happens if things go south.

Elizabeth Abbott, author of *A History of Marriage*, says couples become so seduced by love itself, they forget there's more to a suc-

cessful relationship and some of it is, well, unromantic.

"It's real life. It's living together, it's having a job, it's spending money," says Abbott, a historian and senior research associate at the University of Toronto.

"A little less romance, please."

In no situation is that more important than in common-law marriages — especially if the love affair ends or if one person dies.

John-Paul Boyd, executive director of the Calgary-based Canadian Research Institute for Law

and the Family, says many people in common-law relationships are unaware of their rights and entitlements or lack thereof.

"I think people should have the right to have the relationship that they want. The problem is that people are, as I learned from being a family law lawyer, woefully ignorant of their rights under the law," says Boyd, adding that married couples can be equally nescient.

"No one gives a thought to what will happen when all that



A marriage expert advises common law couples to talk about what happens if things go south. iSTOCK

fairy tale stuff falls apart," she says. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IT TAKES A COMMUNITY TO SAVE A LIFE

ZACH MCGRATH
When three-year-old Zach McGrath disappeared, he was the star of a search on YouTube and the TV talkshow circuit. "The kids were screaming and I could tell by their faces it was really bad," said Rhonda Samuelski, Zach's mother who called 911 when she found her son buried under a TV and dresser. The local fire department was first on scene, followed by paramedics — who knew Zach needed immediate medical attention and called STARS. "Everyone worked together to help save Zach and STARS were there for us and that has been very different," said Rhonda. "It's so hard to believe we have a happy ending."

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Scientists find gravity wave proof

THEORETICAL PHYSICS

Discovery offers evidence of elusive Einstein theory

Scientists announced Thursday they had discovered direct evidence of gravitational waves, one of Einstein's most important — and elusive — predictions.

They captured the incredibly faint signal by recording the sound of two black holes colliding, an event that occurred 1.3 billion years ago.

"We did it," said David Reitze, executive director of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO).

"That's the story today. But what's really exciting is what comes next."

Gravitational waves are one

of the critical predictions of Albert Einstein's Theory of General Relativity — they are ripples caused by mass moving through the fabric of space-time. With energetic enough movements, those ripples might be big enough for us to measure.

"It's one of the most exciting predictions of the theory," said Luis Lehner of the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics.

Yet when scientists celebrated general relativity's 100-year anniversary late last year, no one had yet reported a direct detection of the waves.

The discovery of gravitational waves is far more significant than simply confirming Einstein's predictions.

"It's momentous ... it marks the beginning of our ability to peek at the universe through a completely new window," said Lehner. "It's as if the floodgates are about to be opened."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



MIGRANTS NATO DEPLOYS WARSHIPS TO END SMUGGLING OPERATION Migrants and refugees queue for a meal distributed by volunteers at the passengers terminal in the port of Piraeus upon their arrival from the island of Lesbos on Wednesday. In response to Europe's gravest refugee crisis since the Second World War, NATO ordered three warships to sail immediately Thursday to the Aegean Sea to help end the deadly smuggling of asylum-seekers across the waters from Turkey to Greece. LOUISA GOULIAMAKI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

ALAN KURDI

Accused traffickers go on trial

Two alleged people-smugglers are on trial in Turkey accused of causing the death of three-year-old Syrian migrant boy Alan Kurdi and four other people.

The image of the boy — his lifeless body lying face down on a beach in Bodrum — galvanized world attention on the refugee crisis, graphically illustrating the magnitude of the journeys and suffering migrants risk.

Syrian nationals Muwafaka Alabash and Asem Alfrhad face up to 35 years in prison each if convicted of the charges of human smuggling and causing the deaths of five people "through deliberate negligence."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Alan, left, and his brother Galib Kurdi in an undated photo. HO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NIGERIA

Teenager abandons suicide-bomb attack on refugee camp

Strapped with a booby-trapped vest and sent by the extremist Boko Haram group to kill as many people as possible, the young teenage girl tore off the explosives and fled as soon as she was out of sight of her handlers.

Her two companions, however, completed their grisly mission and walked into a crowd of hundreds at Dikwa refugee camp in northeast Nigeria and blew themselves up, killing 58 people.

Later found by local self-defence forces, the girl's tearful account is one of the first

indications that at least some of the child bombers used by Boko Haram are aware that they are about to die and kill others.

"She said she was scared because she knew she would kill people. But she was also frightened of going against the instructions of the men who brought her to the camp," said Modu Awami, a self-defence fighter who helped question the girl.

She was among thousands held captive for months by the extremists, according to Aloni Lawan, a spokesman for the

Ngala local government area that has many residents at the camp and who is privy to information about her interrogation

the attack that she might kill her own father, who she knew was in the camp," he said on Thursday.

The girl tried to persuade her

She was worried if she went ahead and carried out the attack that she might kill her father, who she knew was in the camp.

Aloni Lawan, local government spokesperson

by security forces.

"She confessed to our security operatives that she was worried if she went ahead and carried out

companions to abandon the mission, he said, "but she said she could not convince the two others to change their minds."

Her story was corroborated when she led soldiers to the unexploded vest, Awami said Thursday, speaking by phone from the refugee camp, which holds 50,000 people who have fled Boko Haram's Islamic uprising.

The girl is in custody and has given officials information about other planned bombings that has helped them increase security at the camp, said Satomi Ahmed, chairman of the Borno State Emergency Management Agency.

Boko Haram's six-year-old

Islamic insurgency has killed 20,000 people, made 2.5 million homeless and spread across Nigeria's borders.

The extremists have kidnapped thousands of people and the increasing number of suicide bombings by girls and children have raised fears they are turning some captives into weapons. An army bomb disposal expert said some suicide bombs are detonated remotely, so the carriers may not have control over when the bomb goes off.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Sanders and Clinton in Milwaukee. TOM LYNN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clinton hits at price tag of Sanders vows

U.S.

Presidential hopefuls duke it out in Milwaukee

Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders tangled over the price tag and practicality of his plans for expanded government programs in Thursday night's Democratic presidential debate, with Clinton accusing her rival of making promises "that cannot be kept."

Clinton and Sanders split the first two states in the state-by-state Democratic primary battle, setting the stage for a long fight for the party's nomination. After contests in overwhelmingly white states, the race now turns to states with more racially diverse populations.

While Sanders has energized young people with his call for free tuition at public colleges

and universities, as well as a government-run, single-payer health-care system, Clinton said those proposals come with unrealistic price tags. And she accused Sanders of trying to shade the truth about what she said would be a 40 per cent increase in the size of the federal government in order to implement his policies.

"I feel like we have to level with people," she said.

Sanders didn't put a price on his policies, but neither did he shy away from the notion that he wants to expand the size of government.

"In my view, the government of a democratic society has a moral responsibility to play a vital role in making sure all our people have a decent standard of living," Sanders said.

The head-to-head contest was pointed, yet polite — a contrast to what has become an increasingly heated contest on the campaign trail.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HEALTH

Zika vaccine testing goal 12 months away

Brazil has signed an agreement with the University of Texas Medical Branch to develop a vaccine against the Zika virus, adding the goal is for the vaccine to be ready for clinical testing within 12 months.

Health Minister Marcelo Castro said at a news conference that the government will invest \$1.9 million in the research, which will be jointly conducted by the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and the Evandro Chagas Institute in the Amazonian city of Belém.

He said the Health Ministry also has reached partnerships

with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and is looking to work with pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline because of its role developing a vaccine against Ebola.

Brazil's Zika outbreak has become a crisis since researchers linked the mosquito-borne virus to a surge in rare birth defects. The connection has yet to be scientifically proven, but the CDC has pointed to strong evidence of a link and called on pregnant women to avoid travel to 22 countries and territories with active outbreaks.

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Weak economy leaves bitter taste for a few beer drinkers

BREWERS

Molson Coors reports lower sales in oil regions

Molson Coors Brewing Co. says a sluggish economy and higher food prices are affecting beer drinking in Canada's oil-rich provinces.

The Denver and Montreal-based company said the beer industry has seen customers, particularly in Alberta, shift from higher-priced premium to economy brands.

Sales volumes have also been slipping in Alberta, as well as in the oil-producing provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador and Saskatchewan.

Molson said its sales volume decreased 5.4 per cent across Canada in the fourth quarter. In January, sales to retailers for at-home consumption fell by more than 10 per cent, or by almost nine per cent excluding the impact of the termination of an agreement to distribute Miller brands.

Part of that decrease can be attributed to macro-economic factors, including higher food prices, said Stewart Glendinning, chief executive of Molson

Coors Canada.

"The consumer is under pressure," he said Thursday during a conference call.

"And if you add to that the fact that consumer debt in Canada is at an all-time high, it's made for quite a difficult recipe in some of those provinces."

Sales volumes were reduced in Quebec by the brewer's decision to raise prices to match competitor Budweiser. Coors Light was also hurt from consumer purchases of Coors Banquet.

Glendinning said the company has made strategic changes over the past three years, including overhauling its supply chain, reducing costs and transforming its portfolio, that will pave the way to improved results.

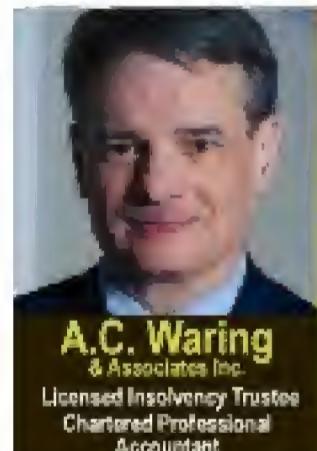
The brewer is modernizing its manufacturing capacity by building a new plant in Vancouver and is close to completing an assessment of its 230-year-old Montreal facility. Glendinning wouldn't say when a decision will be announced on whether to upgrade or move.

Molson Coors said its net income plummeted 65 per cent to \$32.8 million US in the fourth quarter because of lower sales, currency fluctuations and reduced income from operations in Canada and the United States.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Molson Coors says a slow economy and high food prices are prompting beer drinkers, particularly in Alberta, to shift from higher-priced premium to economy brands. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE



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HARRISON FORD Producers sued over broken leg

British health authorities announced Thursday they have issued criminal charges against the producers of Star Wars: The Force Awakens over an on-set accident in which Harrison Ford broke his leg.

The actor, who was 71 at the time, was struck by a hydraulic door on the set of the Millennium Falcon — his character Han Solo's spaceship — at Pinewood Studios near London in June 2014. He was airlifted to a hospital where he underwent surgery.

The Health and Safety Executive said Thursday it had charged Foodies Production (UK) Ltd. with four breaches of workplace health and safety laws. It said "by law, employers must take reasonable steps to protect workers — this is as true on a film set as a factory floor."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ROLL UP THE RIM

Contest upsets reusable mug users

It's a national pastime each winter, as Canadians across the country eagerly "Roll Up the Rim" to win prizes with their cups of Tim Hortons coffee.

But now, thousands of reusable mug owners are calling on the popular chain to

let them play without being forced to take a paper cup.

"Customers should not be forced to choose between an environmentally conscious option and participating in Roll Up the Rim," a petition at Change.org reads. By Thursday

morning, more than 14,000 people had signed on.

The petition was first launched last year by Ally Fraser of Beaumont, Alta., who said Tim Hortons "dismissed" their concerns.

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More than friends
A 2015 study of 522 Hungarians found men and women felt more love, and more jealousy, if their relationship was "Facebook official."

Weekend, February 12-15, 2016

THE BIG THING

CITIES of LOVE

The photo-sharing site Instagram is practically blinding at this time of year with so many shiny rings on display. Among the 80 million images uploaded daily, the "#Shesaidyes!" ring picture is a contemporary classic. But, according to social media at least, it turns out there are significant geographical differences in regards to where people go to find love — and seal the deal. The U.K. engagement-ring company

Ingle & Rhode analyzed 250,000 Instagram photos tagged with #isaidyes, #proposal, #proposed or #heproposed and cross-referenced them with geographic coordinates to rank where the perfect places are for popping the question. Two Canadian cities made the top 25: Vancouver and Toronto.

(Famously romantic Paris was 15th, although there was no hashtag search *en Français*! Where would you stage a romantic rendezvous in Edmonton? Fort Edmonton Park? An

Oilers game? Or would you and your Valentine venture to one of these love-tastic locations to put a ring on it?



1. New York City



2. Los Angeles



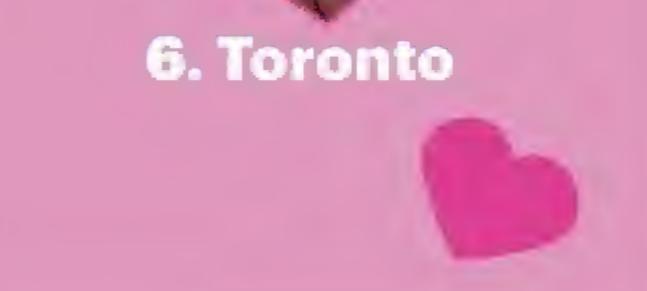
3. Seattle



4. Miami



6. Toronto



5. Chicago



15. Paris

11. Vancouver

metrview

How love — and Canada — helped me rein in my drinking

Like many of my adolescent peers in Dublin, my relationship with alcohol began young. At 13, I made a pact with friends to smuggle booze from our homes to a secret seaside location, where we would all get drunk for the first time.

Most of my pals brought soft stuff; I came armed with Bacardi white. We proceeded to grimace and gurn through the forbidden libations, pulling hard off our cigarettes to mask the taste. I ended my day violently ill and with an enduring aversion to Bacardi.

This embarrassing introduction should have made me cautious. Nope — my mischievous side, my teenage stamina and my country's culture kept me imbibing through my teens and 20s.

By my late 20s, the recession was kicking in, work at the newspaper wasn't plentiful and I'd just painfully parted ways with a good woman — a recipe for an extended period of self-destruction. Four nights a week, I would quaff wine with dinner, followed by a feed of cans, go clubbing and then wobble home to bed. After three years of this, my newspaper job finally ended for good and I decided to leave Ireland in search of stable employment.

I zeroed in on Toronto: cold, yes, but with hot summers. And no Dublin-like rain. I arrived in wintertime and resumed drinking heavily. Fortunately, I met a lovely local girl, Suzi, who showed me the

ropes and, eventually, became my fiancée. Initially we happily boozed and clubbed in tandem, but she soon tired of the binge drinking, went on a serious health kick and eventually became vegan. I did not follow suit. Guilt pangs from booze-ups resulted in me trying to balance my habit with jogging, but I'd often find myself taking premature wheezy walks home.

After a few months I had a job at a newspaper and was socializing with workmates. I'd get hammered while my colleagues paced themselves. I admired the Canadians' humble way, but the "craic"-loving side of me yearned for the mayhem of a Dublin night out.

Soon, however, the Toronto approach took hold (it helped that Ontario liquor stores close at 9 on the weekends). Meanwhile, my fiancée's lifestyle and ultra-healthy diet were rubbing off. I was exercising successfully and feeling better. And then I returned to Ireland. Back in Dublin for nine days, I drank eight of those days, got drunk on six and puked on two.

I returned to Canada a husk of a man, resolving to halt my partying ways. I challenged myself to a dry January and made it. If I hadn't moved here or met Suzi, I'd still be drinking too much back home. So thanks, Canada, for helping me to rein in this tricky vice. I'll occasionally drink to that!

Eoin Weldon is a Toronto-based writer and editor.

Read more of Eoin's story at metronews.ca

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metro WEEKEND

Your essential daily news

MOVIES TELEVISION



Ryan Reynolds: Acting skills unmasked

Ryan Reynolds plays the mouthy antiheroic comic book superhero Deadpool in the eighth installment of the X-Men film series. CONTRIBUTED

A MAN OF MANY PARTS

Deadpool star not just a hot dude with 'tude

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



Look! Up on the screen! It's Blade: Trinity. It's The Proposal. It's Ryan Reynolds!

Yes, it's Ryan Reynolds, strange visitor from Vancouver who came to Hollywood with powers and abilities beyond those of mortal men. He speaks faster than a speeding bullet! He can leap tall scripts in a single bound! He's more versatile than a roomful of Sexiest Men Alive!

I've paraphrased the famous opening of Superman, even though Reynolds has never played Superman in the movies. Careerwise, however, he has been a super man, leaping from genre to genre, piecing together an IMDB page so varied it'll make your head spin.

This weekend brings us another exciting episode in the adventures of Ryan Reynolds.

In Deadpool he's a former Special Forces operative subjected to an experimental treatment that gifts him with regenerative healing power and increased agility. Unfortunately it also leaves him filled with rage, thirsty for revenge against the doctor who changed his life. The character's greatest superpower, according to Reynolds, "is annoying the s--- out of people."

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Zoolander 2 ★
Deadpool ★★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★ SEE IT
★★ WORTHWHILE
★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

It's not the first time the 39-year-old actor has played someone with superpowers. It's not even the first time he's played Deadpool. That character debuted in X-Men Origins: Wolverine and he starred as Captain Excellent in Paper Man, the darkly heroic Hannibal King in Blade: Trinity as well as donning the super-tight tights of the Green Lantern.

When he isn't battling crime, however, Reynolds has been more adventurous in his roles

than people give him credit. Peppered throughout his major Hollywood successes like The Proposal have been roles like The Amityville Horror's psychologically unstable father, Woman in Gold's relentless lawyer, and the crackhead Gary in the thriller The Nines.

Successful or not, those movies showcased a performer looking to stretch his acting muscles (and not just display his prodigious ab muscles). Here are some

other Reynold's roles that show his super-versatility:

The Voices: Reynolds plays the wholesome-looking Jerry, an eager to please factory worker with a crush on the cute accountant upstairs. When she stands him up for a date it becomes apparent Jerry has serious problems. As bodies pile up he grapples with voices in his head that tell him to do terrible things. Kitschy, strange and decidedly off kilter, The Voices has funny moments but revolves around Reynolds's winningly odd performance.

Buried: Reynolds is a civilian truck driver in Iraq, taken hostage, buried underground, who will be left to die unless a ransom is paid. The entire movie hap-

pens inside the four walls of a coffin with only Reynolds and a cell phone on display. Unable to rely on his usual comic timing and bulging muscles, Reynolds hits a career high, keeping the audience intrigued for most of the 90-minute running time.

The Change-Up: Starring Reynolds and Jason Bateman, this film is like several movies in one. It's part gross-out comedy, part heart tugger and all switcheroo. The set-up is Freaky Friday simple: the two leads swap personalities but it works because Bateman adds a little hyper Van Wilder inflection to his speech and Reynolds drops his energy a few notches to match Bateman's more laconic style. Both are likeable actors, with charm and charisma to burn.

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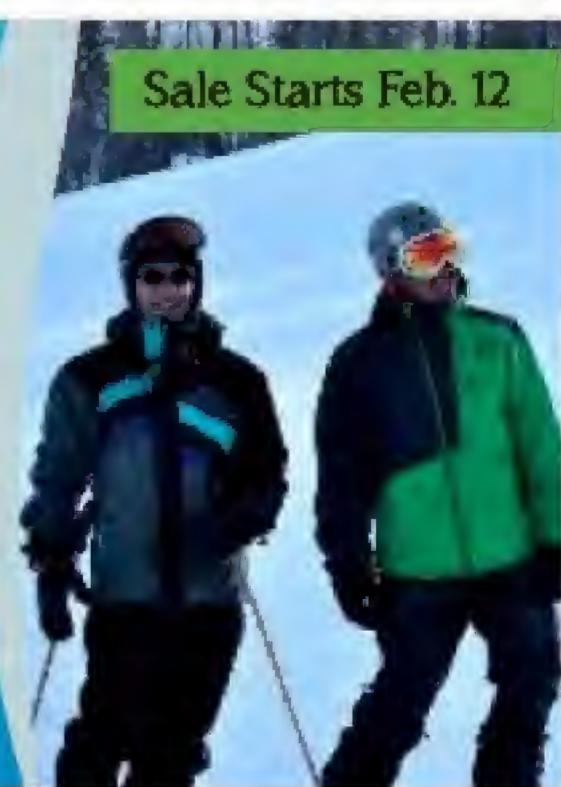

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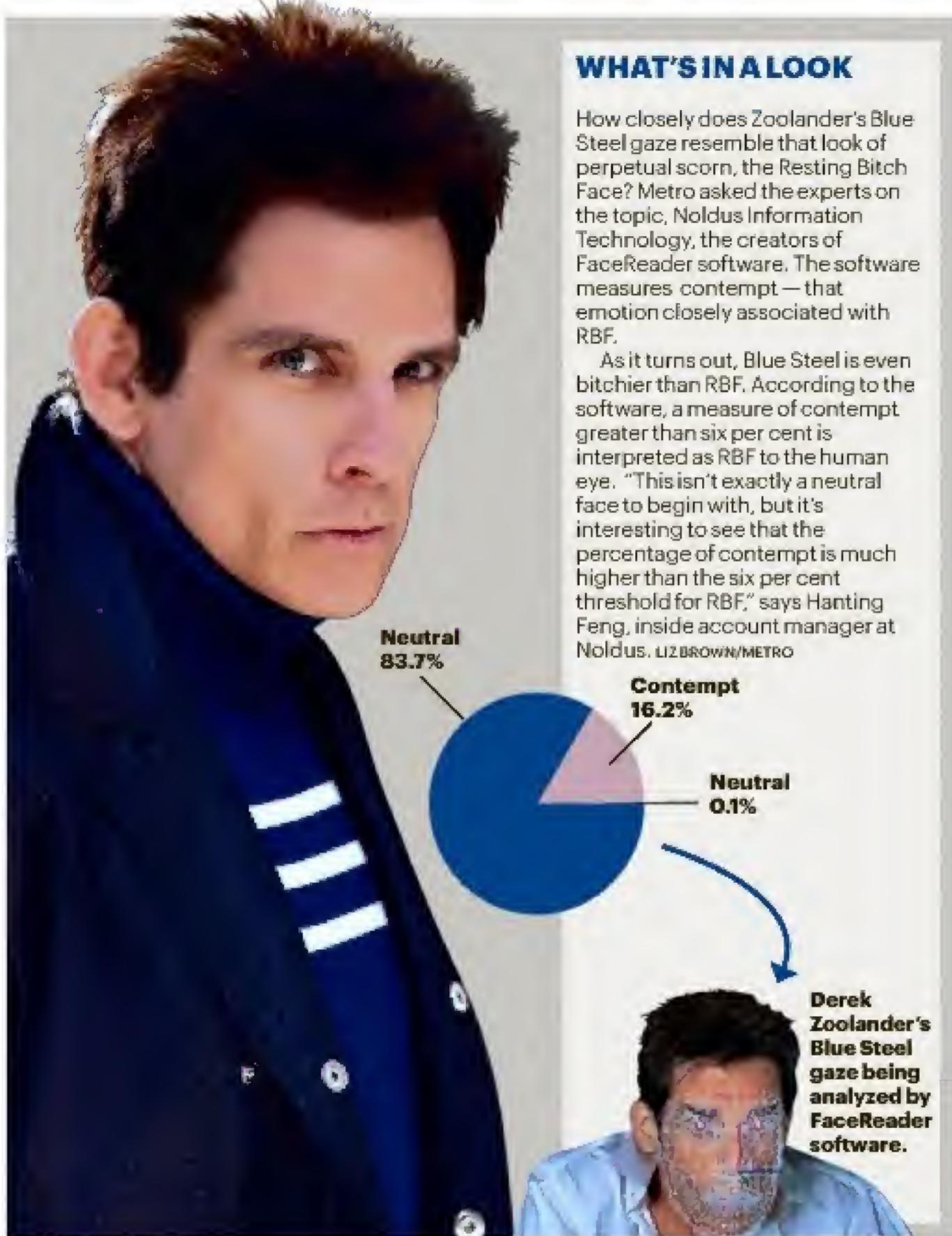
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Dear God, they're beautiful



WHAT'S IN A LOOK

How closely does Zoolander's Blue Steel gaze resemble that look of perpetual scorn, the Resting Bitch Face? Metro asked the experts on the topic, Noldus Information Technology, the creators of FaceReader software. The software measures contempt — that emotion closely associated with RBF.

As it turns out, Blue Steel is even bitchier than RBF. According to the software, a measure of contempt greater than six per cent is interpreted as RBF to the human eye. "This isn't exactly a neutral face to begin with, but it's interesting to see that the percentage of contempt is much higher than the six per cent threshold for RBF," says Hanting Feng, inside account manager at Noldus. LIZ BROWN/METRO

It's been 15 years since Derek Zoolander's really, really, ridiculously good-looking face graced the silver screen. But he's back this weekend, and he's middle aged, even dabbling in the anti-aging cream market with a NYC-based Kiehl's pop-up shop called the Derek Zoolander Center for People Who Don't Age Good. A Metro investigation dug up a few more middle-aged male models and discovered that, unlike the rest of us, they do age good. LIZ BROWN/METRO

TYSON BECKFORD

Age: 45

Career: Beckford was discovered in New York City and recruited to be the face of Ralph Lauren Polo in 1993. He was also in the original Zoolander.

Still got it: Just last year Beckford was showing some skin as celebrity host of the Chippendales at the Rio in Las Vegas. With abs of steel and a face as soft as a baby's behind, Beckford isn't shelving his strut any time soon.



INSTAGRAM @TYSONBECKFORD

MARCUS SCHENKENBERG

Age: 47

Career: Schenkenberg gained notoriety with his nearly nude in the shower shoot for Calvin Klein in 1991. In the early 2000s he was linked to Pamela Anderson and Jessica Simpson.

Still got it: A cursory glance of his Instagram account will morph into an afternoon creep session involving abs, gratuitous gym shots and shirtless shoots with horses. It'll leave you wondering what the specifics of his Faustian bargain might be.



INSTAGRAM @MARCUSCHENKENBERG

MARK VANDERLOO

Age: 47

Career: Vanderloo is the man upon which Derek Zoolander's character is loosely based (The Zoolander name is said to be a riff on Vanderloo). You've likely seen him looking chic for Hugo Boss, where he's been one of their main models since 2005.

Still got it: Do you like a strong jaw? Do you like weathering in all the right places? Do you like a man who looks like your friend's super hot dad you secretly lusted after in high school? We thought so.



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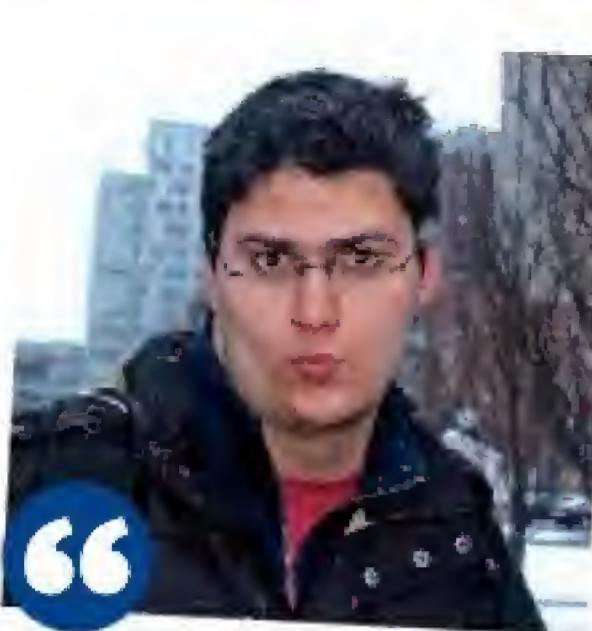


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REACTION

Metro readers respond: Show us your best 'Blue Steel'



When would you use this look? For the paparazzi

Who are you trying to impress? The media

Ramtin Alikhani, Ottawa



I think we all use this look to make our cheek bones look extra fleek. — Andrea Llewellyn

From left: Dyna Tuytel, Kat Gajewska, and Andrea Llewellyn of Calgary



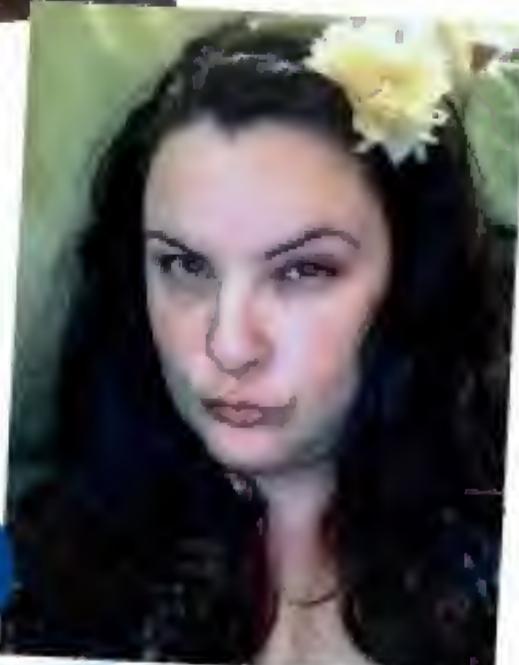
This is my daughter Piper at two months old showing her best Blue Steel. Her uncle argues she is actually doing Le Tigre!

Kelly Macdonald, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia



EK gives Blue Steel a try. #Zoolander

George, Toronto



It's a fine line between 'blue steel' and duck face, and I may have crossed that line.

Alana Beck, Halifax



I opted for #LeTigre. Gotta keep #Magnum under wraps until it's ready.

Nicholas Mizera, Toronto

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Exposing honour killings through filmmaking

SHARMEEN OBAID-CHINOY

Gripping doc A Girl in the River receives Oscar nod

When Saba Qaiser was 19 years old, her uncle and father shot her in the head, stuffed her in a bag and threw into a river to die. They said she had shamed her family when she married the boy of her choice.

She crawled from the water, severely wounded. It was pitch black. She grabbed hold of the scraggly bushes on the river's edge and pulled herself to safety. In the distance, Saba could see only the single headlight of a motorcycle and then a gas station.

"Save me. Save me," she pleaded to the doctor who eventually treated her.

Saba is the hero of the Oscar-nominated documentary *A Girl in the River: The Price of Forgiveness*, by Pakistani filmmaker Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy.

It explores the practice of honour killings, where fathers, husbands and brothers kill their wives, daughters or sisters for shaming them, accusing them of "stealing" their honour.

The offence could be as minor as a misinterpreted look in the direction of a boy, sitting too long in the presence of an unknown man or in Saba's case, marrying a man of her choice.

"It is pre-meditated, cold-blooded murder. You hunt them down and you shoot them," Obaid-Chinoy said about honour killings.

"It should be decided (in court) as a killing."

Obaid-Chinoy wants the law changed and wants Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to go beyond just condemning honour killings.

She would like to screen her movie at the prime minister's residence with "all the stakeholders" present — politicians, judiciary, police, vic-

tims, and activists — in hopes of bringing change.

In 2012, Obaid-Chinoy won an Oscar for her documentary *Saving Face*, depicting the suffering of victims of acid attacks — women disfigured by acid thrown in their faces, usually by men they have spurned or refused in



Pakistan's Oscar-winning filmmaker, Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy chats with colleagues at her office in Karachi. SHAKIL ADIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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marriage.

In *A Girl in the River*, Obaid-Chinoy began filming Saba soon after she was attacked in 2014 for defying her parents to marry her beloved, Qaiser. Saba's bravery — and the sweetness of their relationship — plays out on screen even as she recovers in the hospital, her face deeply gouged by the bullet fired by her uncle.

The Oscars are on Feb. 28 and *A Girl in the River* will be aired March 7 on HBO.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BACKGROUND

Law in Pakistan

- An average of 1,000 women are killed each year in so-called "honour killings," according to estimates used by many women's rights groups in Pakistan.

- Most often, men who kill female relatives are not prosecuted, because Pakistani law allows relatives of the victim to forgive the killer, a provision based in Islamic law.

- Since in these cases the killer is also a family member, the relatives almost always forgive him.

JACK HUSTON

Ben-Hur remake star talks about epic undertaking

Jack Huston is surrounded by the undead in his new movie *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*, but this summer the stakes are even higher. He stars in the role made famous by Charlton Heston in a remake of *Ben-Hur*. Huston recently watched an early cut of the film and despite the expected jitters from an actor watching his work, he liked what he saw.

"I think the lovely thing is I

was seeing it as the big picture. ... I was so taken by everything and all the work that everyone had done," said Huston in a recent interview.

In the 1959 version, the filmmakers used thousands of animals and roughly 10,000 extras. In this remake, they have technology on their side. But Huston says they used special effects judiciously.

"All of us were very interested

in trying to do as little CGI as possible in the moments where you didn't need it," he said.

The film's famed chariot scene involved shooting six days a week for two months.

"The chariot scenes, all the slave ship stuff, that's all us. That's all me there. ... We were very conscious of that and we tried to make it as real as possible, as immersive as possible.

"We really wanted to give

everyone the real experience because that's what *Ben-Hur* is. When you associate *Ben-Hur* you see the chariot as well as this incredible character and this arc.

"Everyone's gonna be waiting, 'OK, when's the chariot scene?' We knew we had to outdo everything on that."

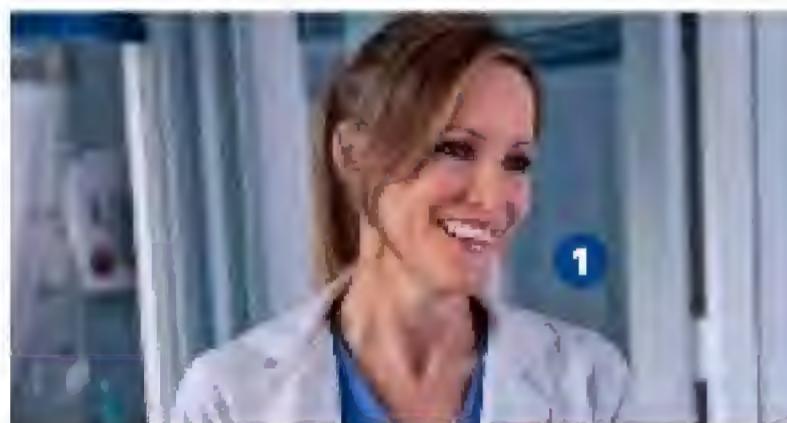
Ben-Hur is scheduled for an Aug. 12 opening.



Jack Huston is filling Charlton Heston's shoes in a remake of *Ben-Hur*, which opens in theatres Aug. 12. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Who needs a boyfriend anyway?

Given the film's title, it's not unreasonable to expect the stars of *How to Be Single* to have a few thoughts on, well, how to be single. The leading foursome bring a variety of experience to the topic, from Leslie Mann, who's been married for two decades, to Dakota Johnson, who is currently living the single life in New York City. Alison Brie, meanwhile, recently got engaged to beau Dave Franco, and Rebel Wilson thinks it might be time to rethink the whole "eternally single" thing. Here's where they stand on the topic **NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO**



1 LESLIE MANN — "I've been married for 20 years. I can't even remember anymore being single," Mann admits. "I had so much shame when I was single. I would make out with a lot of people but I would never have sex because then I would feel bad. But I made out with everyone. And some dry-humping."

Mann is pleased, though, with the state of the world for single women today versus when she was in her 20s. "I'm excited for my daughters to see the movie because I love the message," she says. "This is going to sound weird but I tell my daughter Maude, who is 18 now, she's an adult, but I always tell her, 'Just show off your boobs! You have great boobs. And it doesn't get any better. I know what happens. Just enjoy them now, enjoy this time.'"



2 DAKOTA JOHNSON — "I am a single person. I love that I'm alone all the time. I love sleeping next to no one. I really don't want to be cuddled. I love to have dinner by myself," she says with a laugh. But seriously, though. "No, I actually like spending time by myself. I kind of cherish my time alone. I like solitude, so that's nice. But then being single also sucks sometimes — because you're single."

Johnson appreciates that *How to Be Single* shows women in a more liberated, sex-positive light. "With this film, I was attracted to the positive outlook on women, especially, exploring relationships with different people and being confident and comfortable and strong," she says. "That was the kind of thing that was appealing to me, because that's what's real, and it's honest and there's nothing to be ashamed of. That's what single women do."

3 REBEL WILSON — "I'm, like, eternally single, and I think I like it a bit too much, and I need to be more open to the possibilities of love," Wilson muses. "I'm very independent, I always have been. I went to an all-girls school and we were really taught to be independent. Although, one teacher did try to teach us how to marry a rich man and kill him. The science teacher, she would tell us, like, how to dampen the sheets and stuff, and sometimes we'd really listen to that. But we were always encouraged to go out and live our own lives. And from my own mother, as well, she's like, 'Don't have kids too young, because it will ruin your life.'"

Sound advice, though Wilson is starting to think that maybe she's had her fun already. "Now I'm at the point where things are going so well that I'm trying to, like, look for the right person. I just haven't found him in Hollywood. Surprise, surprise," she says. "I don't like smoking. And then maybe, like, lying? When they say they didn't have a fiancée, and their teammates supported that, and then I find out a few months later they did in fact have a fiancée back in their hometown? That's a bit bad. Yeah."

4 ALISON BRIE — "I think my favourite part about being single is just being able to do whatever you want, the freedom. You are your own person," Brie says. "Aside from your close friends and your family, you don't have to always be thinking about maybe whatever move you're making, how that is going to affect the person in your life. You kind of can fly by the seat of your pants. That's what I really liked about being single. It felt very fun and spontaneous." That doesn't mean she didn't have some lousy times out before settling down. "Any of the bad dates I've had involved one or more parties drinking too much," she says. "When I was single, I don't think I would ever just end a date mid-date even if I were not having a good time. I'm sort of like, 'Well I want to be polite, I should stick it out. I'll just hang and dance with this drunk guy.' And that's a s-t-y thing. I think a lot of the time women feel like we don't want to be rude, we don't want the guy to think we're a b—, so we entertain a lot of bad behaviour."



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THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

Despite the familiarity and a few heavy-handed moments, *Vinyl* is thrilling, contagious and good TV

But Bobby Cannavale, who stars as big time record label president Richie Finestra in the 10-part series premiering Sunday, was in good health — and great humour: "I love coming up here," he said on stage at the TIFF Bell Lightbox in Toronto. "Every time [I'm here] is to premiere a movie that goes on to be watched by nobody ... all those movies — I'm of course proud to be a part of — have brought me to this moment. It's like I've finally been traded to the Yankees."

"God, he's got a great head of hair," Simon whispered.

"God, he's got great charisma," I replied.

"I think what you're about to see is unlike anything you've ever seen before," producer Terence "Terry" Winter warned the audience, "certainly not on TV, maybe even in movies."

Not exactly: There are drugs, blood, breasts — even, B-roll (albeit unseen) from *Taxi Driver*. But don't get me



wrong, the two-hour pilot was highly entertaining.

I was stomping my feet to the music, covering my eyes from the violence, and laughing out loud, which are all signature Scorsese moves, not to mention his jumping chronologically in the narrative, epic swirling hand-held shots and directing a supporting cast — think Andrew Dice Clay, Ray Romano and Max Casella — who surprise and shine in their roles.

Even *Vinyl*'s setting — New York 1973, a pivotal point in music when the foundations of disco, punk and hip hop were laid — feels like it's been mined before. It's also the year Scorsese's *Mean Streets* came out, whose soundtrack, coincidentally, features music by Mick Jagger, who shares a *Vinyl* executive producer credit with him — and which trumpeted Scorsese as a director who uses music as though it were a supporting character.

"Music and film are almost one and the same," he wrote in *Gramophone*. "There's the rhythm, the pace of music — and the equivalent of that in film is the camera movement, how long you hold a shot on screen before you cut, if you don't cut, the look on a person's face."

Despite the familiarity (including faces: Jagger's son James also stars in the series), and a few heavy-handed moments, like when Richie accidentally 'discovers' hip hop while driving through South Bronx in his chauffeured Mercedes on his way home to Greenwich — *Vinyl* is thrilling, contagious and good TV.

The music had been so loud that when we left the theatre into the cold our ears were ringing. "It feels like we just went to a concert," Simon said. And although we hadn't had dinner, we weren't hungry on account of the popcorn we devoured, which doesn't necessarily pair well with the '70s New York music scene but it's quintessential movie food. And *Vinyl* is quintessential Scorsese, who personifies film and therefore popcorn.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.

TV BRIEF

Binge on *House of Cards* Season 4 starting March 4

Netflix has released the official trailer for season four of their award-winning political drama *House of Cards*. Season four will see the return of Kevin Spacey as Democrat politician Frank Underwood, who will again be joined by Robin Wright as his equally ruthless wife Claire.

Scream actress Neve Campbell will also be joining the show, although her character has not yet been revealed. The fourth season will be released on Netflix March 4, will all new episodes released at the same time so fans can watch as and when they wish. Netflix have already announced that a fifth season of the show will air in 2017. *AP*



House of Cards contributed

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Applications will be accepted until February 18th, 2016.
All submissions will be treated as confidential.

metrolife

INTERVIEW

Fans create Twitter account for *Walking Dead* stars' stach

On *The Walking Dead*, Michael Cudlitz's character, Abraham Ford, is known for his bright red hair and distinctive handlebar moustache. His facial hair has so captivated fans of the zombie apocalypse drama that they've even created an off-colour Twitter account for it at *CudlitzStache*.

"They play with it and they play with the fact that we don't acknowledge it," Cudlitz said in an interview this week. "It's like, 'What are you doing? I'm right here. I'm right under your nose.'"

Cudlitz said he usually doesn't comment at the Twitter account because he doesn't want to interrupt the fun. But sometimes he just can't resist and will chime in with something like, "Hey, knock it off", or I say, "I'm going to cut you off", adding that "everybody gets nervous when you say something like that."

The *Walking Dead* returns with its midseason premiere Feb. 14 on AMC at 9 p.m. ET. Cudlitz said Season 6 picks up with Alexandria overrun with zombies.

"This is the ultimate test," Cudlitz said, of whether the new characters in the town



Cudlitz's character Abraham Ford is known for his bright red hair and distinctive handlebar moustache. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

have the mettle to survive.

Fans also get to meet Negan, the iconic villain of the comic books the series is based on, played by Jeffrey Dean Morgan.

"You're going to love Negan. You're going to love to hate Negan and that's what I think the show needs, someone that you love that is bad that is just as beloved as the characters that he's trying to kill."

As for Abraham, he's now feeling frisky, which viewers saw when he hit on fellow survivor Sasha (Sonequa Martin-Green), even though he's already having an affair with Rosita (Christian Serratos). Cudlitz said he doesn't see anything wrong with that.

"It's the zombie apocalypse. He's human." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Your essential daily news



Visitors can rent Van Gogh's room on Airbnb for \$10 US a night

Colorado, two ways

1 On a budget?

Go to picturesque Copper Mountain, which is less than a two-hour drive from Denver International Airport.

Where to stay

Copper Mountain Resort's family-friendly ski-in, ski-out lodges' condos start from \$142 US/night and are casual (think lots of pine) but cozy (hello, fireplace).

Most lodges are equipped with a hot tub, gym and ski locker. With activities and restaurants spanning three Villages (there's a complimentary shuttle between each village) and ski rentals right at the foot of the mountain in Center Village, you get to spend more of your vacation time on the slopes and enjoying apres-ski life.

Where to ski

The mountain naturally divides into sections for beginners, intermediate and advanced, so if you're a newbie on skis or a board you can stick to the lower mountain or the green runs, which are far from the more difficult runs, so there's no need to fret about accidentally ending up on a black diamond.

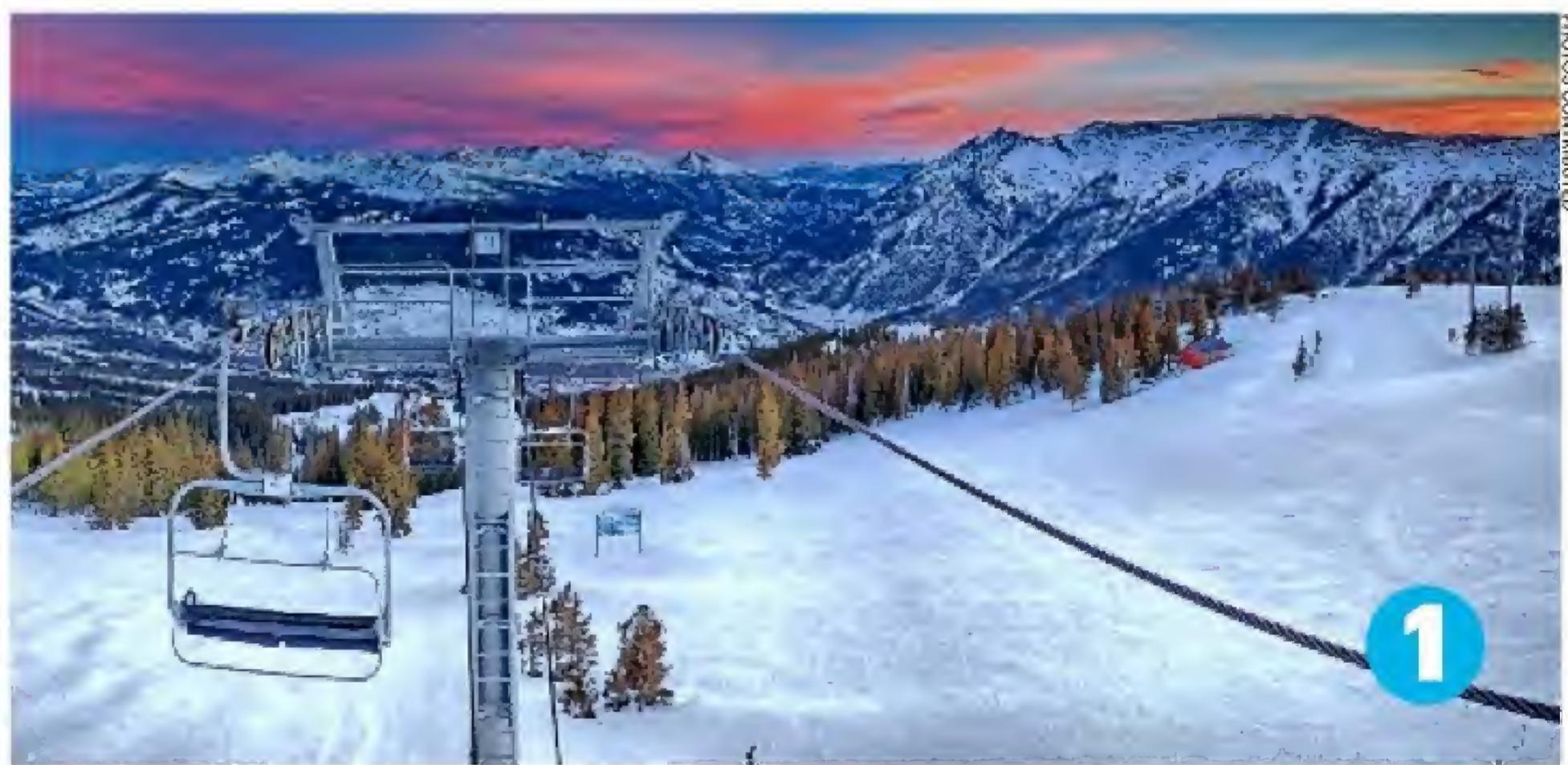
Expert skiers, on the other hand, can head straight to shredding the bowls at Copper such as Resolution and Union, where they can find fresh snow on powder days. Download the Copper Mountain Sherpa app before you go so you can follow fellow skiers, track the vertical feet you ski, your speed, hear "audibles" (tips and messages) left by other skiers at certain points of the mountain, get run suggestions and more.

Where to eat

For breakfast, go to Endo's Adrenaline Bar & Grill in Center Village (the huevos rancheros makes for filling ski fuel).

Feeling peckish on the mountain? At the top of the American Eagle chairlift, grab a Belgian waffle or warm cup of soup at Flyers Soup Shack.

Come evening, swap the ski gear for smart casual attire and head to the posh C.B. Grille, located in Center Village, and dig into fresh local fare such as its striped bass and Angus beef.



Thanks to the state's elevation and its distance from the Equator, Colorado offers ideal skiing conditions — for both the budget-savvy and luxury-minded. It's home to dry, powdery snow and just-cold-enough winter temperatures to not leave you frozen. With no lift lines and long ski runs, you'll get more quality skiing done here than in a lot of other regions. **KAREN KWAN/FOR METRO**

2 Want to splurge?

About a one-hour drive from Montrose Regional Airport, Telluride offers slopes that are as good as Aspen but without the hype. Stay at luxe The Peaks Resort & Spa, where you can rest in your modern spacious suite, get a top-notch massage for your ski-weary muscles at the spa, and enjoy ski-in, ski-out access to Telluride Ski Resort.

This historic mining town, which you may recognize from Quentin Tarantino's flick, *Hateful Eight*, sits in a box canyon (read: unbeatable mountain vistas) where you can shop along its charming main street in town (get on the free gondola to get there) before dinner at Allred's. Everything there is a sure bet, but meat lovers should not miss the tender, juicy cider-brined Berkshire Colorado pork chop.

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This year's Basketball Hall of Fame class includes three players certain to make the cut — Allen Iverson, Shaquille O'Neal and Yao Ming



Raptors guards DeMar DeRozan, left, and Kyle Lowry will represent the Eastern Conference in Sunday's all-star game in Toronto.

JENNIFER POTHEI-SER/NBAE VIA GETTY IMAGES

Basketball's best bring sizzle to T.O.

2016 NBA ALL-STAR

Mid-season showcase lands north of border

Chris Bosh set foot in Toronto on Thursday and before he could put his hand to his phone, a probably unwelcome but familiar feeling hit him and stung any exposed skin, tensing his entire six-foot-11 frame.

"It is COLD," the former Raptor, now an 11-time NBA all-star and six-year member of the Miami Heat, tweeted.

He's certainly not wrong. The temperature is expected to dip to -23 C on Friday and Saturday night.

If nothing else, the cold lines up perfectly with the arrival of basketball Christmas in Toronto.

The NBA and all its best players and personalities and the parties that come with them are in Canada for all-star weekend.

The festive feeling that started to percolate in downtown Toronto on Thursday will bubble and brew Friday and roar into a basketball-themed beast of its own for the weekend, culminating in the 65th edition of the all-star game Sunday.

LeBron James and Kobe Bryant are in Toronto. So is Stephen Curry and his Splash Brother, Klay Thompson. Bosh, Dwyane Wade, Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook. The insanely talented list goes on and on. Paul George, Carmelo Anthony, DeMar DeRozan and Kyle Lowry.

Given the magnitude of the talent assembled for Sunday's game, the weekend starts off almost inconspicuously Friday with the NBA celebrity game and its 7 p.m. tipoff at Ricoh Coliseum.

There's a distinctly Canadian flavour to the game, with Drake coaching a Canadian team along-

side two-time NBA MVP Steve Nash against comedian Kevin Hart's U.S. team.

Drake and Nash will oversee a team that features Jose Bautista, Milos Raonic and former players Tracy McGrady, Rick Fox and Tammy Sutton-Brown. Actor Nick Cannon and former Raptors Chauncey Billups and Muggsy Bogues are on Hart's team.

The first NBA-related piece of the weekend comes next, with the Rising Stars Challenge at Air Canada Centre. The league modifying the rookies vs. sophomores game to a U.S. against the World Team setup last year works perfectly for the first all-star weekend outside America.

As long as the game is played in the States, Friday will mark the only time that Team World is the fan favourite.

"That's really cool," said Dallas Maverick and Toronto native Dwight Powell, a second-year forward who'll be on Team World.

"I think it speaks to the globalization of the game, how many people it's touching across the world and the NBA specifically."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

OUR GUYS

Three Canadians — Andrew Wiggins, pictured, Dwight Powell and Trey Lyles — will play for the World Team versus the U.S. in Friday's Rising Stars game.

Wiggins was the game's MVP last year in New York, thanks to a 22-point effort to lead Team World to a 121-112 win.



GETTY IMAGES

Literally we were writing down our hopes, our dreams, our visions for the Raptors. And one of the dreams was to play the first international all-star game outside of the U.S.

Isiah Thomas, the Raptors' first-ever general manager

NHL

Avs beat Sens to end 4-game slide

Jarome Iginla scored twice and added an assist and Semyon Varlamov made 26 saves as the Colorado Avalanche snapped a four-game losing skid by defeating the Ottawa Senators 4-3 Thursday night.

Nathan MacKinnon and Blake Comeau, into an empty net, also scored for the Avalanche (28-25-4), who led 3-0 before Ottawa pulled within a goal in the second period.

Chris Neil scored with 26 seconds left after Comeau's



Jarome Iginla
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

empty-netter in the third but the Senators couldn't complete the comeback. Mark Stone and Mike Hoffman also scored for Ottawa (25-25-6).

Dion Phaneuf, in his home debut for Ottawa, had two assists.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Zika a secondary concern for Canadian captain Sinclair

Captain Christine Sinclair says the Canadian soccer team is thinking of other things than the Zika virus as it bids to qualify for the Olympics.

"I haven't heard our team talk about it once," she said Wednesday on the eve of playing Guyana at the CONCACAF Women's Olympic Qualifying tournament. "Our focus is (Thursday night) and that's pretty much where we're staying focused at."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Raonic's training limited by torn adductor muscle

Canadian tennis player Milos Raonic has been unable to resume on-court training due to a slightly torn adductor muscle that hampered his play in a semifinal loss to Andy Murray at the Australian Open last month.

Raonic said he has been able to do strength work and off-court training since then but hasn't hit balls because of the two-centimetre tear in the adductor.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HOSTING THE WORLD

Nash sees ASG as another launch pad

Steve Nash thinks this weekend's NBA all-star game in Toronto will go down as another important milestone for basketball in Canada.

Nash, a two-time NBA MVP and the general manager of Canada's senior men's team, spoke at length on Thursday about the effect the all-star game will have on Canada and

the growth of the sport in the country.

The game's in a good place in our country.
Steve Nash

"I think it's another milestone when the game's growing to a new height and bringing in more fans and more kids interested in playing the game at a younger age and learning the game and the values that come along with the game," said Nash. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Toronto Argonauts' Chad Owens will be missed by the Toronto Argonauts faithful.

MIKE F CAMPBELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ticats hurt Argos with Owens deal

CFL

After Bulcke chose Toronto Hamilton hit back instantly

Moments after losing Canadian defensive lineman Brian Bulcke to Toronto, Kent Austin delivered a timely counter-punch to the arch-rival Argonauts.

The Hamilton head coach/GM agreed to terms with former Argos standout Chad Owens on a one-year deal Thursday, less than an hour after Bulcke agreed to go to Toronto following three seasons with the Tiger-Cats.

Owens' contract details weren't available, but Toronto GM Jim Barker had said it would be financially challenging to resign the former CFL outstanding player.

"There's nothing we can do about it," Barker said Thursday regarding the prospect of losing a

veteran in free agency. "It's going to happen every year." Toronto also lost free-agent kicker/punter Swayze Waters to the NFL's Carolina Panthers but gained Calgary Stampeders defensive back Keon Raymond on the third day of CFL free agency.

With Bulcke gone, Hamilton re-signed Canadian free-agent defensive lineman Michael Atkinson to a two-year agreement. For years, Owens was the face of the Argos. The five-foot-nine, 180-pound dynamo was named the CFL's outstanding player in 2012 after registering 94 catches for 1,328 yards and six touchdowns and amassing a record 3,840 all-purpose yards.

And the 33-year-old Hawaiian capped that season off by helping Toronto win the 100th Grey Cup at Rogers Centre. He signed a lucrative contract extension in June 2013 reportedly worth \$225,000 annually and last year moved his family from Hawaii to live full-time in southern Ontario.

But after missing just two

games his first three years in Toronto, Owens has been sidelined for 17 regular-season games the last three seasons. In 2015, he finished with 55 catches for 570 yards and two touchdowns over 13 contests. Owens remained Toronto's leading punt returner — 37 returns, 12.6-yard average, one TD — but CFL rookie A.J. Jefferson (26 returns, 12.5-yard average, one touchdown) also performed admirably.

Shortly after agreeing to join the Ticats, Owens graciously thanked Argos fans for their support. "There isn't enough words to express the gratitude I have for the Toronto Argonauts," Owens tweeted.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL IN BRIEF

Bruins prospect injured

The Boston Bruins say goaltending prospect Malcolm Subban has a fractured larynx and will miss at least eight weeks.

Subban was hit in the throat by a puck Saturday in an American Hockey League game for Providence against Portland. The team says he had surgery in Boston on Monday and has been released from the hospital. Subban, 22, was a first-round pick in 2012. He has played once for the Bruins.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Moustakas agrees to two-year Royals deal



Mike Moustakas. GETTY IMAGES

The Royals and third baseman Mike Moustakas have agreed to a \$14.3 million, two-year contract that not only avoids arbitration this year but also next year.

Coming off his first All-Star appearance, the 27-year-old hit .284 last year with 34 doubles, 22 homers and 82 RBIs while also setting career-highs in on-base percentage and slugging.

Kansas City offered \$4.2 million and Moustakas countered with \$7 million. The sides settled Thursday on \$5.6 million this

season and \$8.7 million next season, keeping general manager Dayton Moore's streak intact of never taking a case to an arbitration hearing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOLF

A tale of two Justins at Pro-Am

Justin Rose, a U.S. Open champion and the No. 7 player in the world, shot a 6-under 66 his first time playing Spyglass Hill and spent a gorgeous day listening to the fans call out his name. Except they weren't calling for him, and he knew it.

His partner in the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am is Justin Timberlake.

"I've never seen a demographic like that on a golf course. Everyone was under 21 and 80 per cent female," Rose said. "I said, 'OK, that moved the needle a little bit there.'" Rose did OK himself Thursday.

He got off to a strong start in his debut at the Pebble Beach Pro-Am, where Chez Reavie had the low score at a tournament that needs three days to sort out because of the variety of courses.

Reavie made an eagle on the

16th hole and shot 8-under 63 at Monterey Peninsula, which played just more than 1 1/2 strokes under par and was the easiest of the three courses. Freddie Jacobson made five birdies in a six-hole stretch and shot 7-under 65 at Pebble Beach, the only course to play over par (72.06) on Thursday.

Cameron Smith of Australia and Bronson Burgoon each had a 7-under 64 at Monterey Peninsula. Rose is among six players from the top 10 in the world, and the only one of them to break 70. This is his first time playing the Pebble Beach Pro-Am, partly because he chose not to play in the Middle East swing on the European Tour, and partly because of a partner (Timberlake) that he has come to know over the years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Justin Rose of England plays his tee shot on the 18th hole.

ROBERT LABERGE/GETTY IMAGES

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Ceri Marsh &
Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada



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1. In a medium frying pan, melt butter over medium heat. Add garlic and sauté until garlic is translucent, about 2 minutes.
2. Toss in apples and sauté until soft, about 2 to 3 minutes. Remove apples and place on a clean plate.
3. In the same pan, place a slice of bread and then cover the top with the shaved cheddar. Lay slice of apple atop cheese and then cap with the other slice of bread. Cook until the underside becomes a gold brown then flip. Remove from the pan and serve when the cheese melts thoroughly and the top is also a golden brown. Repeat with other two slices of bread.

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Prep time: 5 minutes
Total time: 15 minutes

Serves 2

Ingredients

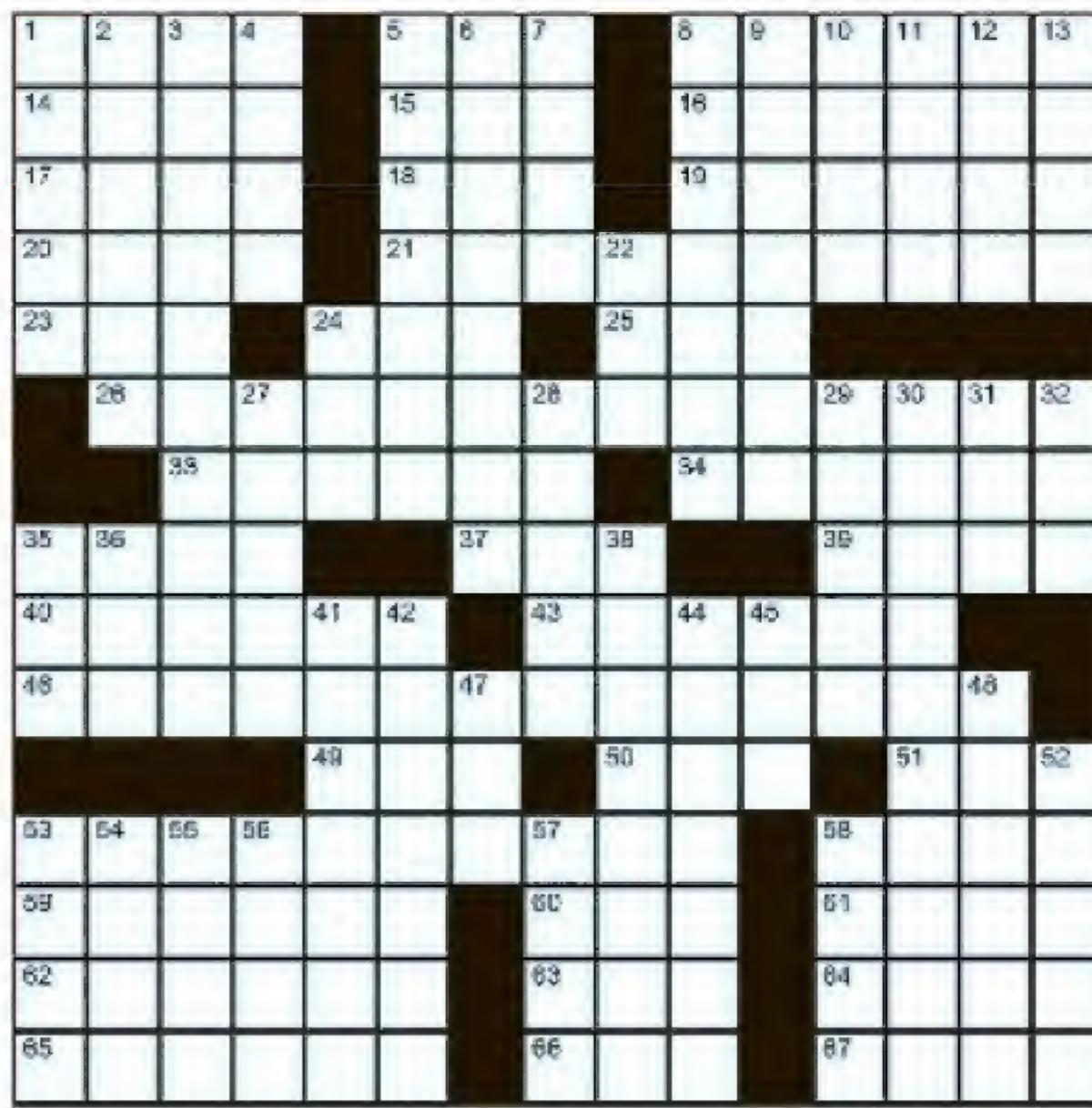
- 1 Tbsp butter
- 1 clove garlic, grated
- 1 Gala apple, peeled and thinly sliced
- 4 pieces of multi-grain bread
- 1/2 cup crumbled, aged cheddar

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Cobras
5. FM's opposites
8. "House on the Prairie"
14. Shetland _
15. Allow
16. Kind of: 3 wds.
17. Additionally
18. Star's secret
19. Selection
20. Cobblestone
21. Song from the musical Hair: "England"
23. "Let me think..."
24. Car or truck, e.g.
25. Not him
26. Caribou, for instance: 2 wds.
33. Give
34. _ of Liberty
35. Particular
37. Camera variety, commonly
39. Puny physicians
40. Runway surface
43. Cat's mystery writer, _ Jackson Braun
46. Super Channel show which is a nominee in the 'Best Comedy Series' category for the upcoming 2016 Canadian Screen Awards: 3 wds.
49. Apiece
50. Ron _ (Star of '60s series "Tarzan")
59. Anxiety
60. Coffee holder
61. Sacred Hindu text
62. _ burner (Lab device)
63. Flight schedule acronym
64. Fur



DOWN

1. Flooded
2. Seriously sincere
3. Like some late

- 20th-century architecture
4. Letter insertion site, sometimes
5. Town in southern Saskatchewan meaning 'Avenue of Trees'
6. Blockbusters

7. British WWII sub-machine gun
8. Caribou use their hooves to search for these food sources beneath the snow
9. Get left stuff via a will
10. New Mexico's

artsy town
11. Bit of a jerk
12. Pretty material
13. Glander
22. NBA Hornets
city, for short
24. Irish singer Mr. Morrison
27. Fun-style parent
28. Lockups
29. Tea Leonid drama on CBS, " _ Sec-
retary"
30. Where to have the world as a success: 3 wds.
31. Cole Saint- _
Quebec
32. The Outsiders author Ms. Hinton's
35. Addams Family relative
36. _ Chi (Mar-
tial Art)
38. Decrease of
tempo, in music
41. Places in close
proximity
42. Mark Twain's
real surname
44. Frog's furni-
ture: 2 wds.
45. Polar
47. Dadaist Jean
48. One-of-some in
many soups
52. Benjamin of
movies/TV
53. Marching band
instrument
54. Burden
55. Hankerings
56. Instance
57. Tennis serv-
ing whiz
58. Trophy-receiving
athletes, e.g.

*IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20

Forget about what others expect and do only what interests you. But you don't have to do it on your own. Group activities are under excellent stars at the moment, so get together with people who share your vision.

Taurus April 21 - May 21

Why burden yourself with so many commitments? Just because you can do most tasks better than other people you know does not mean you have to do them. Learn to delegate.

Gemini May 22 - June 21

Expand your horizons. A long-distance trip would be an ideal way to make use of today's cosmic influences, but if that isn't possible at least broaden your mind.

Cancer June 22 - July 23

If you need assistance today all you have to do is ask. That applies especially to money matters. Joint financial enterprises are now under excellent stars at the moment, so get together with people who share your vision.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

If you want to get things done today you will have to make others feel as if they are the center of your universe. Make them believe that life revolves around their existence. Then they will do whatever you ask them to.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Jupiter in your sign makes you want to work but it also makes you want to have fun. Get your work done today so that your weekend will be clear.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

If you are dissatisfied with your lot then raise your sights and start living up to your potential. The Sun in Aquarius will do wonders for your confidence, lack of which is the only thing holding you back.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You have far too many things going on at the moment. If a friend drops hints that they need your support you may feel obliged to give it but make sure they know there are limits.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Your social life will blossom and you will be so in demand that you have to turn some invitations down. You will get on best with people in whose company you feel totally relaxed.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

You'll get more than one opportunity to boost your income, so don't worry if your cash flow situation does not look too good. The planets indicate there's big money in your future.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Luck is on your side. If you take advantage of it there is no end to what you can accomplish. Don't listen to those who say there are limits to what can be done. For you those limits no longer exist!

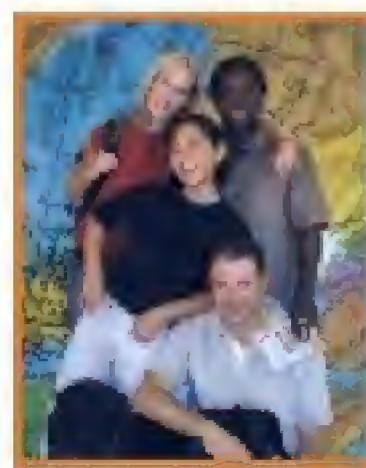
Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20

At this time of year, your imagination is strong, so take part in something creative. Writing, dancing and singing are all well starred, so get out there and put on a show.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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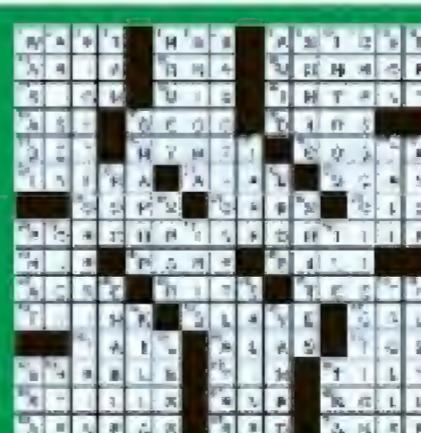
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8	1	2	4	5	3	6	7	9
7	9	6	2	8	1	4	5	3
4	7	1	8	3	5	9	2	6
9	5	3	6	1	2	7	8	4
2	6	8	9	7	4	1	3	5
6	2	5	3	4	7	8	9	1
3	4	7	1	9	8	5	6	2
1	8	9	5	2	6	3	4	7

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14A5168
2014 FIAT 500L
TREK
\$16,393



13B6373
2013 CHEVROLET
1500 CREW 4X4 LS
\$17,303



14B5119
2014 HYUNDAI
VELOSTER TURBO
\$17,774



13B2434
2013 HYUNDAI
TUCSON PREMIUM AWD
\$19,406



08B4972
**2008 DODGE CALIBER R/T
\$3,712**



13B4411
2013 CHRYSLER
TOWN & COUNTRY
TOURING STOW N GO
\$17,887



14B2403A
2014 CHEVROLET
EQUINOX AWD
\$19,703



09B8164
**2009 DODGE
JOURNEY SE
\$7,127**



11B6456
2011 JEEP GRAND
CHEROKEE LAREDO
\$21,010



13B4984
2013 FORD F150 S/C
4X4 XLT ECO BOOST
\$22,270



11B9575
2011 NISSAN
XTERRA SV 4WD
\$23,712



12B3226
2013 RAM 1500
Q/C 4X4 SLT
\$24,650

09B6682
2009 BMW X6
PREMIUM
\$25,769

14B9472
2014 RAM 1500
CREW 4X4 SLT
\$27,024

15B1513
2015 RAM 2500
CREW 4X4 OUTDOORSMAN
\$35,510

12A6333
2012 FORD F150
CREW 4X4 HARLEY
DAVIDSON EDITION
\$35,562

11B7211
2011 CHEVROLET
2500 CREW 4X4 LTZ
\$39,010

07T9052
**2007 DODGE
NITRO SLT 4X4
\$6,105**



15A2798
2015 JEEP
WRANGLER SAHARA
UNLIMITED
\$37,247

14B3366
2014 GMC 1500
CREW 4X4 SLE
\$37,765

11B7211
2011 CHEVROLET
2500 CREW 4X4 LTZ
\$39,010

SALE PRICES IN EFFECT UNTIL CLOSING TIME TODAY 9PM. IE: 2014 TOYOTA COROLLA SLE #14B9056 PAYMENTS BASED ON 3.99% APR, 0 DOWN FOR 84 MONTHS, \$16090 OR \$4Wk. COST OF BORROWING IS \$2565.80 AND TOTAL OBLIGATION OVER THE TERM IS \$19,827.32. MUST QUALIFY FOR SPECIAL RATE. D.A.C. PRICES SHOWN DO NOT INCLUDE GST. VEHICLES MAY NOT BE EXACTLY AS ILLUSTRATED. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS.

SHERWOOD
BUICK **GMC**

HOME OF THE
NO CHARGE **DURAMAX**

\$29,770



2015
SIERRA 1500
4-DOOR
4X4

\$174 B/W

\$37,470



2015
SIERRA 2500
4 DOOR SLE

\$219 B/W

\$41,490



2016
ACADIA AWD

\$236 B/W

\$34,490



2016
CANYON CREW CAB

\$202 B/W

\$28,970



2016
ENCORE

\$160 B/W

\$25,970



2015
GMC TERRAIN
AWD

\$152 B/W

\$19,900



2015
VERANO

\$117 B/W



PRE-OWNED SPECIALS



\$21,600



2013
RAM 1500 4X4

\$145 B/W

\$17,600



2011
FORD EDGE LTD AWD

\$118 B/W

\$30,600



2012
AUDI A5 QUATRO COUPE

\$205 B/W

CALL 780-464-5123

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Vehicles may not be exactly as illustrated. All vehicles were available at time of printing. Advertised prices and interest rates subject to change without notice. All advertised prices and payments exclude GST. New 2015-2016 model years based on 96 months @ 4.99%, eg. Stk# 5BV9819 2015 Buick Verano selling price \$21200 financed over 96 months @ 4.99% bi-weekly payment \$124. C.O.B. \$4589.91 Bi-weekly payments are based on 26 payments per calendar year. Payments are based on \$0 down payment O.A.C. No Charge Duramax is a price reduction of \$9970 off list price of any 2500 or 3500 equipped with a Duramax Diesel engine.

